NOTT'S BRIGADE
IN
AFGHANISTAN,
1838-42.

923.5581
Not/Not
103188

00103188

BOMBAY BRANCH

OF THE

Royal Asiatic Society.

Digitized with financial assistance from the
Government of Maharashtra
on 18 July, 2018

NOTT'S BRIGADE

IN

AFGHANISTAN,

1838-42,

103188
ac

BEING THE PRIVATE DIARY OF AN OFFICER WHO SERVED IN IT FROM FIRST TO LAST.

Bombay:
PRINTED AT THE TIMES OF INDIA STEAM PRESS
1880.

00103188

INTRODUCTION.

This Diary was kept by one of the only two surviving officers who marched with the Army of the Indus from first to last. It refers mainly to work in the last Afghan Campaign which has been almost entirely ignored by Kaye, though to Bombay men at all events it was of special interest. The Diary covers the years 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841 and 1842, and carries the reader from the Indus viâ Quetta to Kandahar, and thence right through to Jellalabad viâ Ghuznee and Cabul. Thus the writer probably saw more of Afghanistan geographically than any officer serving in the present campaign; and his notes, which are clear, accurate and pithy, show that the country and the people are still practically unchanged. The Diary was, of course, kept as a private journal, and we shall not attempt to diminish its value by altering or omitting anything contained in the manuscript. As the writer took it from the chest in which it had mouldered for thirty-eight years here it stands. The favourable reception the Diary met with when it was issued by instalments in the columns of the *Times of India* proved that its publication was acceptable to a large class of military readers, and it is now issued as a separate volume at the request of several officers at the front and in India, who wish to preserve it in a permanent form.

NOTT'S BRIGADE IN AFGHANISTAN,

1838-42,

BEING THE PRIVATE DIARY OF AN OFFICER WHO SERVED IN IT FROM FIRST TO LAST.

ARMY OF THE INDUS.

GENERAL STAFF.

Major P. Craigie, Deputy Adjutant-General.
Lieutenant Kay, Assistant do.
Major Gordon, Deputy Quarter-Master-General.
Lieutenant Baker, Deputy Assistant do.
Cor. Tytler, do. do.
Captain Thomson, Chief Engineer.
Major Parsons, Deputy Commissary-General.
Captain Watt, Deputy Assistant do.
Captain Bygrave, Pay-Master.
Surgeon Atkinson, Superintending Surgeon.
Surgeon Thompson, Field Surgeon.
Surgeon Ross, Medical Storekeeper.
Major Hough, Deputy Judge-Advocate-General.
Captain Nash, Baggage-Master.
Major Sale, Post-Master.
Reverend Mr. Hammond, Chaplain.

DIVISION STAFF.

Cavalry.

Major-General Thackwell, Commanding.
Captain Roche, Aide-de-Camp.
Major Cureton, Assistant Adjutant-General.

1st Division Infantry.

Major-General Sir W. Cotton, Commanding.
Captain Cotton, Captain Havelock } Aides-de-Camp.
Captain Douglas, Assistant Adjutant-General.
Captain Paton, Assistant Quarter-Master-General.
Captain Laughton, Field Engineer.

N.B.—2nd Division Infantry, commanded by Major-General Duncan, remained at Ferozepore. It consisted of 3rd Brigade (H.M.'s 3rd Foot, 2nd N.I., and 27th N.I.) and 5th Brigade (5th N.I., 20th N.I., and 53rd N.I.)

BRIGADE STAFF.

Cavalry.

Colonel Arnold .... Commanding.
Captain Havelock ..... Aide-de-Camp.
Captain Wheler ..... Brigade Major.
Captain Reddie ..... Commissary.
Captain Hay ..... Dy. Asst. Qr.-Mr. Genl.

2nd Light Cavalry.	4th Local Horse.
H.M.'s 16th Lancers.	2nd Troop 2nd Brigade Horse Artillery.
3rd Light Cavalry.	

Infantry, 1st Brigade.

Brigadier Sale ..... Commanding.
Lieutenant Wood ..... Aide-de-Camp.
Captain Squire..... Brigade Major.
Captain Simpson..... Commissary.

16th Regt. N.I. 48th Regt. N.I.
H.M.'s 13th L.I.

2ND BRIGADE.

Brigadier Nott..... Commanding.
Captain Polwhele ..... Brigade Major.
Lieutenant Hammersley ..... Aide-de-Camp.
Lieutenant Curtis ..... Commissary.

31st Regt. N.I. 42nd Regt. N.I.
43rd Regt. N.I.

4TH BRIGADE.

Brigadier Roberts ..... Commanding.
Lieutenant Gerrard..... Aide-de-Camp.
Captain Taylor ..... Brigade Major.
Captain Ramsay ..... Commissary.

25th Regt. N.I. 37th Regt. N.I.
European Regt.

The army of the Indus assembled at Ferozepore in December 1838 mustered, of all arms, about 12,000

Deduct 2nd Division, which remained at Ferozepore 4,000

We marched about ..... 8,000 rank & file, with perhaps 12,000 camp followers and 30,000 camels.

1838.

Nov. 28.—Arrived at Ferozepore, a small town on the northern frontier, left bank of the Sutlej, distant from Kurnaul 15 marches. Army encamped by brigades in one long line, with flanks thrown back, extending about four miles. Camp of Commander-in-Chief, Sir H. Fane, on right flank; camp of Governor-General, Lord Auckland, two miles in front of right; camp of Runjeet

Sing, King of the Punjab, on the opposite side of the Sutlej; communication by a bridge of boats.

DEC. 3.—The whole army paraded for exercise under Sir Henry Fane. On the field were the Governor-General and Runjeet Sing with splendid *cortéges.* Runjeet Sing rode down the whole line inspecting everything closely. He was an insignificant-looking little old man, and having lost an eye his face had a most sinister expression. Many visits and interchanges of civility took place between him and the Governor-General.

DEC. 10.—The head-quarters, with the Horse Artillery, moved towards Roree, at which place is the fort of Bukkur, on a rock in the Indus, and here the river was to be crossed. The road lay along the left bank of the Sutlej.

DEC. 11.—1st Brigade marched.

DEC. 12.—2nd Brigade marched, and the rest of the army in succession. The road to Bhawulpore, a large town near the river, is most uninteresting, country badly cultivated, soil sandy and covered with tamarisk jungle. Bhawulpore is 16 marches. Arrived on the 1st of January 1839.

1839.

JAN. 3.—Marched for Roree road as before; marches about 13 miles, average distance to Roree from Bhawulpore 18 marches. Road runs on a narrow tract of land lying between the river Indus and the desert. Went out almost every day with Ham-

mersley to shoot. Game, black and grey partridges, deer, wild hog, and tigers.

JAN. 27.—Arrived at Roree, a small town, surrounded by small hills, covered with tombs and temples, close on the edge of the river. Found the engineers employed making a bridge of boats from Roree to the small island of Bukkur, thence to the town of Larkhana on the opposite bank. River about a quarter-mile broad ; current rapid.

JAN. 28.—Requisition for reinforcements arrived from Sir John Keane, Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Division of the Army, then near Hyderabad, who expected an attack from the Ameer of Sind. One of these, the Chief of Khyrpore, assembled 10,000 men for the purpose of attacking our camp at night, but lost heart at sight of our troops. Fort of Bukkur given up ; garrisoned by the 35th N.I.

JAN. 29.—Marched towards Hyderabad to Sir John Keane's assistance, all in high spirits at the thought of taking the rich city of Hyderabad, prize-money, &c.

FEB. 10.—Received orders to countermarch to Bukkur, the Ameers of Sind having signed the treaty.

FEB. 11.—Retraced our steps with heavy hearts ; arrived at Roree.

FEB. 23.—Crossed the Indus over a splendid bridge of boats.

FEB. 26.—Arrived at Shikarpore, a large city and a place of great trade. The whole army remained encamped here for some days, and then

started by brigades for Dadur, mouth of the Bolan Pass. Bombay army having arrived at Larkhana, three marches west of Shikarpore, struck off by the left by another route. Sir J. Keane being now Commander-in-Chief of the united army of the Indus, he took on with himself of the Bombay troops two troops and some Foot Artillery, two squadrons H. M.'s 4th Dragoons, H. M.'s 2nd and 17th Foot, and 19th Regiment N.I. Being unable to provide carriage for supplies for this force, Sir John sent an order to Shikarpore to send over to Larkhana all the camels of the 2nd Brigade, which was directed to halt at Shikarpore till further orders. This act of injustice caused great outcry and excitement among the Bengalees. With the grand army the 2nd Brigade was no longer employed.

Towards the end of the month of March, Captain Stockly, Bombay Commissariat, left Shikarpore with a convoy of grain laden on about 1,000 camels, with a small escort. Three days afterwards we received intelligence that he had been attacked by large bands of Beloochees, and obliged with his convoy to take refuge in the fort of Janeedera, where he was blockaded. Head-quarters and right wing of 42nd, with a party of Irregular Cavalry, received orders to march to his relief. Arrived at Janeedera, we scoured the country in search of the Beloochees, and burned two forts. Marched from Janeedera with the convoy and crossed the Put, or desert, twenty-eight miles—a dreary march, a level sandy plain

destitute of water and vegetation, not a blade of grass, and neither bird nor insect to be seen throughout. In the morning, as the sun was rising, we saw a magnificent mirage—lakes, castles, trees, towns, &c., &c., the deception being most complete. Parties of mounted Beloochees hovered on our flanks, but did not attack. Arrived at Burshoree; water bad, black, brackish, and scanty. At Meerpore, the next march, large bands of mounted Beloochees attempted to carry off our camels while at graze. I sallied out in pursuit, accompanied by Captain Dalyell and a few horse; overtook a small detachment of Beloochees, whom we brought to bay near the edge of the jungle. Dalyell shot one, I another, who attacked me sword in hand. The troopers despatched the rest. Felt no compunction at shedding blood. Returned to camp, sun dreadfully hot, thermometer 115° in tent. Complimented in orders next day.

April 9.—Reached Dadur, a small walled town at the entrance of the Bolan Pass. Found part of the Bombay Division encamped here. Bad accounts from the army above the pass. No supplies procurable, and a retreat talked of. It not being deemed advisable to increase the force above the pass, on account of the scarcity of provisions, we were ordered to halt at Dadur, while the Bombay army pushed through the pass. Heat most oppressive at Dadur, thermometer in tent 120°, outside 160°.

April 26.—Marched for Quetta as escort through the pass to two troops Horse Artillery, Shah Soojah's service. Horses knocked up the first march. Dread-

ful labour dragging on the guns and wagons, besides store carts. Second march in the pass in a narrow defile attacked from the heights by a party of the Murree tribe of Beloochees. Five of the Grenadiers drove them back. Road through the pass is the dry bed of a mountain torrent, shingle and large blocks of granite. Hills on either side rugged, precipitous, and perfectly barren.

MAY 4.—Sent on all the baggage ahead, and started at 11 p.m. to escort the guns through the Dih-i-Duzdan (den of thieves). Road excessively bad, progressed about half a mile an hour. At midnight, moon rising, entered the narrow, winding defile of Dih-i-Duzdan. Defile about sixty yards broad, with steep precipitous banks on either side about 100 feet high. On turning an angle of the defile saluted from the left height by a heavy fire from the matchlocks of the Kakur tribe. A few men and horses knocked over; most of the balls passed over our heads, but rather too near to be pleasant; the reverberation through the winding defile most magnificent. Impossible to ascend the heights, a party was extended on the opposite side of the road, who in some degree checked the Kakur fire, by keeping the savages from the edge of the precipice. They then pushed large rocks before them and rolled them over. These did us more damage than the fire of the matchlocks. This continued till we got out of the defile, about 3 a.m., as day was breaking. The road was now more open, but a partial fire was kept up from the heights, which

were now less precipitous. Took half a dozen sepoys with me to dislodge a party on a hill ; the cowards would not await our onset, but scampered off. Fired a few long shots, apparently without effect. While ascending the hill one of the sepoys was shot through the *stern post.* Arrived at our halting-ground, a barren plain, outside the pass, at noon, having accomplished a march of eight miles in thirteen hours ! ! ! but we were forced to drag the guns and wagons almost all the way, and when a horse was knocked over there was great delay in getting the dead animal out of harness. At our halting-ground we found not a drop of water, so at 4 p.m. struck the tents, and at 5 started for Siriab, 19 miles. Men and cattle suffered most dreadfully from want of water, the wounded particularly. Fortunately the night was cool, and the breeze refreshing, otherwise we should have lost many men. As it was, some died, others went raving mad, and it was most difficult to make any keep the ranks. Thirst is the most horrible of all sufferings, either to feel or witness. At 4 a.m. reached Siriab, where men and cattle rushed to the water like mad creatures. It is an error to suppose that camels can do without water for any length of time, for they must drink daily. I should say a horse could endure thirst for a longer period than a camel. There are camels in Arabia and other parts where deserts are to be crossed which will exist without water for some days ; but this is artificial training. Camels intended for the deserts are from their birth kept

on short allowance of water, drinking only every second day. As they grow the time is extended to three, four, up to seven, and even where water is abundant they are not permitted to drink oftener. You might train a horse or even a man to the same.

MAY 7.—Marched seven miles into Quetta, and encamped with the small force left there under General Nott. Quetta is a small walled town, the capital of the fertile valley of Shawl, surrounded on three sides by lofty hills. Here are found many Europe plants and flowers, also birds; the climate is fine, though here the sepoys suffered severely from sickness towards the autumn, which could not well be accounted for.

JULY.—The left wing of the regiment arrived at Quetta, having suffered most severely on the march from Shikarpore to Dadur. The heat was most oppressive, water bad and often not procurable. At Meerpore, Ensign Beaufort and Sergeant Shannon, and before the wing reached Dadur four or five native officers and about sixty sepoys, fell victims to heat and thirst.

AUGUST.—Cholera broke out in camp. Many victims daily to this dreadful disease. Consternation seized the sepoys, who walked about in silence with terrified, haggard countenances, each man fancying he would be the next victim. Some of the officers were not free from this fear. Changed ground to the east of the town in the hope of getting away from the disease; ineffectual, many of our best men died.

SEPTEMBER.—Returned to our former encamping-ground. Cholera still continued, but rather abated; Lieut. and Adjutant Gould almost the last victim. He had always the greatest dread of this disease, and could not even bear to hear it spoken of. All of us, medical men and all, were satisfied that cholera is neither contagious nor infectious.

OCTOBER 20.—Received orders to be in readiness to march on Khelat next morning, on a requisition from Captain Bean, the Political Agent in Shawl. Order countermanded on learning the approach of General Wiltshire with the Bombay detachment from Cabul, as to him Government had intrusted the taking of Khelat.

OCTOBER 26.—Marched from Quetta for Kandahar, fourteen marches. Arrived at Kandahar. This famous city abounds with bad smells, dogs, and disgusting beggars. Men tall, handsome, and impudent. Women ugly and dirty in person, though they are constant attendants at the baths; but this purification does not extend to the hair, which is filled with vermin. Crowds of ladies may daily, about noon, be seen crowding to the baths for the sake of gossip, &c., as much as bathing,—indeed after the manner of Constantinople (*vide* Lady M. W. Montague's letters). When in the streets, their dress consists of a large white linen cloak, with broad hems at bottom. This is thrown over the head as far as the forehead, and envelopes the person. A white, oblong, linen veil, two feet by one and a half, is fastened round the forehead by gold hooks to the

cloak at the back of the head. Their hair is elaborately plaited in numerous thin tails hanging down the back; parted, and drawn off the forehead; no curls. On the head is worn an embroidered skull-cap of satin. A loose white muslin skirt is worn, reaching to near the knees. No stays, but a nondescript sort of substitute of silk or satin. Loose and long silk or satin pyjamas, and embroidered slippers with turned-up toes and pointed heels two inches high, shod with iron—rather a formidable weapon in the hand of an enraged dame, and often applied to the mouth of a slave. When in the streets a pair of long, loose, white linen boots is worn, gartered with coloured silk ribbon, embroidered with mottoes or verses from the Koran, above the knee. The veil has an oblong square of grating or fine network let in opposite the eyes, which offers no obstruction to the wearer's gaze, while she remains unseen. Many of these veils are most beautifully embroidered with white silk: a good one will cost eight or ten pounds. The whole suit of a lady of quality will cost from fifty to one hundred pounds.

The climate of Kandahar is good and very pleasant, except at the end of February and first half of March, during which time heavy rain falls, rendering the streets almost impassable.

1840.

Led a dull monotonous life at Kandahar till the month of October. Meantime Quetta had been attacked by the Kakur tribe, who were driven off in

a night attack by Captains Bean and Hammersley. Again, in July, by Nussur Khan, son of Mehrab Khan, King of Khelat, who was killed at the capture, but he received the same sort of reception as the Kakurs, and retired. He, however, succeeded in recapturing Khelat, and taking Lieut. Loveday, the Political Agent there, prisoner.

October 3.—Marched as escort to two eighteen and a couple of six pounders, intended for the recapture of Khelat. Most severe labour for three days dragging the large guns over the Kojuck Pass, in the range of mountains between Kandahar and Quetta.

October 23.—Joined General Nott's camp, with the remainder of the troops and guns to be employed against Khelat, one march from Quetta, and proceeded to Moostung, a large town, where we arrived.

October 28.—The city ruinous, the gardens and houses showing signs of Nussur Khan's late depredations. Heard that Nussur Khan had left Khelat, and proceeded towards Dadur, which he afterwards took and burned, leaving Khelat in charge of his uncle, Azum Khan, and a respectable garrison; and also that we might expect strong opposition.

November 2.—Received intelligence from Khelat that Azum Khan had the preceding night plundered and deserted Khelat. Great lamentation throughout camp at this unexpected turn of affairs.

November 3.—The approach to Khelat is through low ranges of barren hills. Being in advance with the Quarter-Master-General, I rode to the top of one of these hills, and had a fine view of the town and

citadel. As there were still some doubts about the evacuation of Khelat, the approach was made with caution, some cavalry and a wing of the 43rd being sent in advance. I accompanied the former. On approaching the walls the gate was opened, and out came a deputation of the chief of the few inhabitants left in Khelat, chiefly poor merchants. Passed the gates, and through a long, narrow, winding street for a quarter of a mile ascending till we came to a covered street leading up to the outer gate of the citadel; arriving at this we found it locked; after considerable delay managed to break the chain; the door opened, and we entered a narrow, covered, dark, winding and very steep passage, 150 yards long, when we ascended into the open air. Ascended several stories by steep narrow staircases, and at length gained the highest part of the roof, on which we planted the colours of the 43rd Regiment.

NOVEMBER 6.—General Nott and all the force (except the 42nd) retraced their steps towards Kandahar, dropping the Shah's 2nd Infantry at Moostung and six guns at Quetta. We remained to garrison Khelat.

DECEMBER.—The inhabitants began to return to their houses. Officers occupy good quarters in the citadel, in which also are two companies.

DECEMBER 13.—Colonel Stacy arrived to take political charge of Khelat; did not much approve of his mode of managing matters; his appointment was afterwards cancelled by the Governor-General.

1841.

JANUARY.—Several heavy falls of snow this month. Hard frost during the night, but the sun sufficiently powerful to melt the ice during the day. Got a pair of skates made up, to be in readiness should the ice bear.

FEBRUARY.—More snow, very cold, fires all day. Good skating for several hours in the morning. Searched through all the gardens for woodcock; unsuccessful. Intelligence received of Major Todd and the British Mission being obliged to leave Herat, in consequence of the Wuzeer Yar Mahomed intriguing with the Persians and inviting them to Herat. It is said £400,000 have been expended by the Mission at Herat and by our Engineers in putting the fortifications into thorough repair—building walls for us to knock our heads against hereafter.

MARCH.—Lieut. Hammersley appointed Political Agent at Khelat in room of Colonel Stacy. I was offered the appointment of Assistant to Captain Bean, Political Agent at Quetta, salary Rs. 500 a month. Declined for the same reasons which, last year, induced me to refuse the offer of an appointment at Cabul under Sir A. Burnes.

MARCH 28.—Captain Dalyell and Ensign Macqueen arrived from the Bareilly Depot with the 7th Company and recruits—very wretched specimens of the genus sepoy.

APRIL 3.—5th Company under Lieutenant Mainwaring marched towards Quetta with 250 camels,

for the purpose of escorting supplies for the troops in Khelat.

APRIL 6.—Colonel Stacy arrived at 11 p.m. from Nussur Khan's camp, having been dismissed rather unceremoniously.

Nussur Khan is the only son of the late Mehrab Khan, Khan of Khelat, who was killed when the fort was taken in November 1839. At this time Nussur Khan, then a lad of thirteen, was at Noshky, sixty miles north-west of Khelat, with the Darogha, Gool Mahomed, endeavouring to raise men to bring to his father's assistance. On hearing of the fall of Khelat and his father's death he fled with the Darogha to the southward. Shah Newaz Khan was placed on the throne of Khelat, and Lieutenant Loveday appointed Political Agent. Nussur Khan remained a wanderer and fugitive, refusing all Lieutenant Loveday's offers of accommodation, till the month of June 1840, when he contrived to assemble a force of about 4,000 men, and came to attempt to recover his father's throne. In Khelat there were only 30 sepoys, Lieutenant Loveday's personal guards. These behaved well, but there being treachery within the walls, Shah Newaz gave himself up to Nussur Khan, and was allowed to withdraw with his attendants to the southward. Lieutenant Loveday also surrendered on a promise of good treatment, which was not fulfilled : he was kept a close prisoner, often in irons, ill fed and clothed, and finally murdered at Dadur in November 1840. In July and August Nussur Khan plundered Moostung

and the surrounding districts, and besieged Quetta unsuccessfully. In October 1840, when the force assembled under General Nott for the purpose of recovering Khelat, Nussur Khan retired with his army down the Bolan Pass, and attacked, plundered, and burned the town of Dadur. Troops arriving he was driven back into the hills. Early in December he was attacked near Gundava by Colonel Marshall and the 25th Bombay Native Infantry, and his army routed with great loss, he fleeing with a few followers towards Bughwana. In December Colonel Stacy was appointed Political Agent at Khelat, with instructions to endeavour to bring Nussur Khan and the Beloochee Chiefs to terms. If Nussur would go in person to Mr. Ross Bell, Political Agent in Upper Sind, and make his submission, he was, notwithstanding all his misdeeds, to be restored to his father's throne. Colonel Stacy commenced operations by endeavouring to secure the friendship of the Darogha, Gool Mahomed, whom he met near Khelat about the middle of January 1841, and it was arranged that an interview with Nussur Khan should take place at Lehuree, fifty miles south of Khelat. Towards the end of the month Colonel Stacy proceeded to Lehuree, where he was met by Nussur Khan, who said he would accompany the Colonel to meet Mr. Bell below the hills at Bagh. Proceeding together some distance, the Khan refused to go to Mr. Bell, and went off to Nirh. The Colonel continued his route accompanied by the Darogha, Kamal

Khan, Chief of Bughwana, and some other Sirdars, and met Mr. Bell at Bagh. He, however, insisted upon a personal interview with the Khan. As Mr. Bell was *en route* to Quetta it was at last agreed that this meeting should take place at Quetta, so the Colonel and the Chiefs returned to the Khan at Nirh, who at last consented to go to Quetta via Khelat and Moostung. He had a large camp, and the Colonel has expended a considerable quantity of Government money in feeding this rabble—about 300 rupees a day. Great delay took place, and it was not till the 6th of April that the camp arrived at Soherab, forty miles south of Khelat. Here Nussur Khan refused to proceed any further, alleging his fear of being made prisoner at Khelat, and expressing his distrust of the British. He dismissed Colonel Stacy from his camp, and directed him to return to Khelat, which he did *re infectâ*.

April 9.—Notwithstanding this treatment, the Colonel, who is still here, is again in correspondence with Nussur Khan and the deceitful Chiefs, and endeavouring by every means in his power to induce them to return from Bughwana, whither they had retired, and again to receive him in their camp—rather derogatory to the dignity of a representative of Government, I think.

April 10.—Flying reports of the assembling of Belooch troops in the direction of Lehuree, and of rising of the disaffected in the Noshky districts.

April 11.—Last evening Kamal Khan, Chief of Bughwana, arrived as ambassador from Nussur

Khan to Colonel Stacy, for the purpose of renewing the broken-off negotiations. Wrote to Bean and Hammersley a long account of all that is going on, as far as I could gather. In the evening received a letter by *cossid* from Hammersley at Moostung, whither he has been sent on deputation to settle some disputes.

APRIL 12.—Replied to Hammersley and despatched the cossid at 11½ a.m.; very cold and cloudy, with occasional showers.

APRIL 14.—Received a letter from Hammersley, dated Moostung, 11th April, 4 p.m. Colonel Stacy started for Quetta at 10 a.m. Cossid, who brought letter, not to be found.

APRIL 15.—At 11 a.m. cossid arrived with a letter and enclosures from Hammersley at Moostung, dated 12th and 13th. Replied thereto, stating the report that Nussur Khan has not been living in Kamal Khan's house. Also that Raheemdad is at Bughwana. Request H. to inquire into the mysterious disappearance of the cossid who brought his letter of the 11th, received only yesterday. As Stacy was starting for Quetta, despatched letter at 30 p.m. Gave cossid one rupee.

APRIL 16.—Received from Captain Bean, Political Agent in Shawl, by Hajee Oosman Khan's cossid, a letter dated 12th, thanking me for all the information I have given him, and for keeping him acquainted with all that is going on here and in the surrounding districts. Replied continuing my statement, but the Hajee's cossid went off before the letter was ready. Heavy rain to-day; very cold.

APRIL 17.—Very heavy rain, exceedingly cold. Engaged Meean Khan as a collector of information; to reward him according to the importance and correctness of what he brings. Continued my letter to Bean. Told him that Azad Khan and Fazil Khan had been communicating, but the latter considered the time unpropitious, too early in the season, and, troops having arrived at Quetta, to wait for the turn affairs may take at Kandahar and in Cutchee. Stated my opinion of the impolicy of inducing the young Khan to come in without the consent or knowledge of the Sirdars. Also that Mahomed Khan Shaiwanee was at Goozg, fifty miles north-east of Khelat. No dak having arrived, enclosed my letters to Bean to Hammersley, and despatched by cossid to Moostung at 4½ p.m. Gave cossid Rs. 2.

APRIL 18.—Dak arrived last evening; a letter from home, from Robert. Wrote to Bean enclosing receipt for Rs. 5,950; had nothing new in the way of information to give him. Wrote also to Ross at Ghirishk. Wrote a long letter to Colonel Young. Still very cold; fingers cramped.

APRIL 19.—Weather cleared up. Received reports from Meean Khan. Nothing new except that Raheemdad had come again to Lehuree to extort money from Ramoo Dewan, but being unsuccessful is still at Lehuree.

APRIL 20.—Dak arrived last evening. A letter from William, received in three months and a half from Montreal, via Coleraine; also one from Colonel Young, the kindest-hearted man in the world.

APRIL 20.—Received Meean Khan's report. Mahomed Khan Shaiwanee some time since sent to Nussur Khan to say he was starving, and to know if he would be received at Bughwana. He was invited to come, and yesterday sent to Shurkoo to get some horse-shoes, none being procurable at Goozg; he got them from a man named Goorbuksh, and is now *en route* to Bughwana. He has only four followers. Fazil Khan Mengul is at Dulla, two marches west of Noshky. He is for the present quietly disposed. There is again a report of an intention on the part of the Chiefs to take Nussur Khan to Kedge, on the borders of Mukran. Beebee Ganzim is at Bughwana, very urgent with the Khan and Chiefs to come in and make terms with us. Wrote the above to Bean. Wrote also to Colonel Dennie, C.B. Just heard that Beebee Ganzim has come up from Bughwana, and arrived at Soherab *en route* to this place.

APRIL 21.—Last night received a cossid at 9 p.m. from Hammersley at Moostung. Nothing new except that he says Fazil Khan Mengul had arrived at Moostung. I know Hazil Khan Rushkhanee has gone there. Think H. makes a mistake in the name. Wrote for an explanation. Wrote same as I did to Bean yesterday, and despatched cossid at 1 p.m. Gave him Rs. 2.

APRIL 22.—Received a letter from Hammersley dated 20th. Colonel Stacy has succeeded in humbugging Mr. Bell at Quetta, and is allowed to return to Khelat. When Kamal Khan returned to Bugh-

wana there was a great "stramnash" in the first durbar, and all the Chiefs took their departure disgusted with their Khan and the turn affairs were taking; so that it is now very probable Nussur Khan may come to Khelat, but not in the way we want him, that is, with the consent of his durbar. Wrote to Bean. Raheemdad is supposed to have arrived at Guzzuk and gone on to Sarawan. Wrote to Hammersley and despatched at 4 p.m. Colonel Stacy arrived from Quetta.

April 23.—Nothing occurred. Employed myself writing to my mother and William.

April 24.—Finished my letters. Enclosed a draft for Rs. 30 drawn by Amnund Rana Shroff on Ranjha Mull Shroff, Bombay, to Frith and Co., on account of postage.

April 25.—At 4½ p.m. my cossid of the 21st returned from Moostung. Gave him Rs. 2. Hammersley gives abundant thanks for all my information. Colonel Stacy is allowed 13 days from date of return to Khelat to produce the young Khan. At the expiration of this period he is to return to Quetta with or without his prize. Fazil Khan did not go to Moostung. There was a mistake in the name. Fazil Khan has been ordered in to Moostung; if he does not go, a force will immediately move on Noshky.

April 26.—Busy writing, and at 1½ p.m. despatched seven letters by dak. At 2 p.m. arrived a cossid from Hammersley at Moostung. Fazil Khan Rushkhana has entered Noshky; troops must move on that place.

APRIL 27.—Wrote to Hammersley and despatched return cossid at 10 a.m. Cloudy weather threatening rain. Heard to-day that Fazil Khan had not entered Noshky. On his approach the Rushkhanees turned out, when he lost heart and returned. Beebee Ganzim arrived at 1 p.m.

APRIL 28.—Mainwaring's detachment returned with grain from Quetta. The 29th Pioneers under Lieut. Prum and three companies 25th Bombay N.I. under Captain Woodburn arrived. Wrote to Hammersley, outside Dulla. Appointed Garrison Staff.

APRIL 29.—Wrote to Hammersley and Bean, giving some rumours that Beebee Ganzim had told Colonel Stacy Nussur Khan would not come in, and that the Colonel had written to him to say one lakh of rupees was awaiting his arrival at Khelat, which would be placed at his disposal, and everything conceded to him, if he would only come. Also that Raheemdad was watching the troops at Quetta, Moostung, and Khelat, and reporting to the Khan and Chiefs at Bughwana.

APRIL 30.—Captain Woodburn's detachment returned to Moostung.

MAY 1.—A company of the 25th Bombay N.I., under Lieutenant Glennie (a snob), arrived, bringing clothing and magazine stores for the regiment. Rumours of Nussur Khan having been carried off.

MAY 2.—Two dâks arrived yesterday evening. Heavy rain during the night. A cossid arrived from Bughwana. The report of the young Khan's

flight confirmed. Wrote to Hammersley at 8 a.m., and again by dâk at 1½ p.m. Colonel Stacy asserts that the Khan has been carried off by the Darogha, Faqueer Mahomed, and the Akhoon; not probable as regards the Darogha. Beebee Ganzim took her departure for Quetta at 9 a.m. Very busy all day with survey reports, returns, &c., &c., and public correspondence.

MAY 3.—Letters from Hammersley; force to move from Moostung on Noshky this day. There will be no fighting. Force, to be commanded by Colonel Soppitt,—Captain Leeson's troop H.A., 20th Bombay N.I., two troops cavalry, two companies H. M.'s 41st.

The company Bombay 25th under Lieutenant Glennie marched at 4 p.m. on its return to Moostung. Received overland mail dated 4th March.

MAY 4.—Wrote to Bean and Hammersley. Heard nothing new to-day. Very cold and high wind. Sat by the fire reading the newspapers.

MAY 5.—Nothing; sat by the fire all day; rode in the evening.

MAY 6.—Dâk came in; no letter for me. Hammersley, I suppose, gone to Noshky.

MAY 7.—Ice ¼ of an inch thick over all the ponds and still water. Wrote to Bean, Hammersley, and others.

MAY 8.—Ice again this morning. Very cold, high wind.

MAY 9.—Wrote to Bean, Macan, and others. Cold; fire all day.

MAY 10.—Meer Azim Khan, Meer Bohire, Taj

Mahomed Khan, all Lehurce Chiefs, with a few other men of lesser note from the same district, arrived here yesterday to accompany Colonel Stacy to Quetta to make their terms with Mr. Bell.

MAY 11.—At 7 a.m. sent off a cossid to Hammersley at Noshky. A letter from Colonel Stacy was enclosed. Letters from Bean and Ross.

MAY 12.—This morning all the camels were sent out to graze to Nokjor with an escort of 80 men under Captain Dalyell and Ensign Macqueen. Cold, cloudy, and windy; obliged to have a fire.

At 4 p.m. the cossid sent by me on the 11th with a letter for Hammersley at Noshky was brought back to me by Juma Meershub. He said he had gone about sixteen *coss* when he was attacked by four armed men, who presented their matchlocks at him, beat him severely, and robbed him, taking my letter also. It struck me that the man was not speaking truth, as he had no marks of ill usage, and his clothes were the same as when he started, not torn at all. I wrote a note to Colonel Stacy to tell him of the circumstance, and to ask whether the man's tale was credible. I sent the note by the Meershub and cossid. In a little more than half an hour the Meershub returned alone, saying the Colonel was too busy to write then, but would send an answer afterwards. A little after sunset I went over to the mess and found Colonel Stacy walking up and down with Hay and Ford; he had come to dine with the former. I asked if he thought my cossid's tale

true, as I doubted it. He replied it was quite correct ; that he knew the place where he was robbed very well, it was near a pool of stagnant water. I observed that the man had said sixteen coss off. Colonel Stacy replied it was not so far, as the people here called two miles a coss. He also said that he knew the people who robbed the cossid, that there were seven, and that they were " Hammersley's men," that as soon as he arrived at Moostung he would make inquiry and order these men to be given up, and that he was sure Hammersley would not be angry at his doing so during His Highness's absence. He also said that he thought Raheemdad was of the party.

MAY 13.—At 8 a.m. Shukroollab, ex-Kotwal, came to me. I asked if he thought the cossid had been robbed, or if he had even left Khelat. He replied that he did not credit the man's tale, and that he did not think he had ever left Khelat. I told him to make inquiry and to let me know.

MAY 14.—A letter from Hammersley from Noshky ; he had not succeeded in capturing Fazil Khan, who having intimation of the approach of troops went off in the *righ*, or desert of sandhills, towards Gurmsall. This is what I expected.

MAY 15.—Wrote to Bean and Hammersley. A cossid came in from the direction of Bughwana. Nussur Khan is still at Mushkai, eighty miles west of Nul on the Panjpoor road. Kamal Khan was in Bughwana settling about his crops. He had sent for his horses, and said he was coming to Khelat.

MAY 16.—Nothing particular.

MAY 17.—A cossid arrived from Hammersley. A vaqueel or representative arrived from Azad Khan of Kharan.

MAY 18.—Weather getting hotter. Captain Jackson, with a detachment Bombay 25th, arrived with commissariat stores. He is rather a decent sort of man for a Duck.

MAY 19.—Nothing.

MAY 20.—Received a letter from Paton, Quarter-Master-General at Cabul, to say that a requisition had gone down to General Brooks to relieve the 42nd, and send it on to Kandahar as the Ghilzais were up in arms, and Shelton's Brigade, which was intended for the Ghilzais' country, was ordered off to Peshawur to protect the Shah's zenana from the mutinous Sikh troops.

MAY 21.—Captain Jackson's detachment started on its return to Moostung. Nussur Oollah returned from his mission to Nussur Khan. I have not seen him, but I understand he says that Nussur Khan is at a place called Kholwa, sixty miles on the road to Kej from Mushkai, and that Darogha Gool Mahomed has come back to Nul to arrange some family matters. Also that the Khan has written to Stacy to say that he is hard pressed for money, and that if the Colonel will come to him bringing a large sum of money he will then talk to him about submitting to terms. The Darogha is said not to have returned to Nul, but his family is there.

MAY 22.—Thermometer risen to 71 deg., the highest it has yet been.

MAY 23.—Nothing.

MAY 24.—Nothing.

MAY 25.—Detachment under Ensign Bourdillon, 25th Bombay N.I., arrived with commissariat stores from Moostung. Reports from the southward. All the Chiefs had left Nussur Khan. Nobody with him but Mahomed Khan Shaiwanee, the Akhoon, and Shewaz Khan. The Darogha had proceeded to Nul to bring away his family and get some money. As soon as he returned to Akhora, where the young Khan was waiting, the whole party was to go to Kej in Mukran. Wrote the above to Bean and Hammersley.

MAY 26.—Received a letter by Ghous Mahomed's servant from Hammersley, dated Noshky, 21st.

MAY 27.—Received intelligence from Quetta that Colonel Stacy was about to return to Khelat. Esa Khan arrived on his way to Khan.

MAY 28.—Europeans getting drunk and creating disturbance. Ordered parties out "still-hunting," captured three men, and eleven earthen pots of liquor half made.

MAY 29.—Nothing.

MAY 30.—Two dâks in. No letters either from Bean or Hammersley; wrote to the latter.

MAY 31.—Nothing particular.

JUNE 1.—Overland mail of April arrived; received a letter from my father, and two from Hammersley at Noshky. Reports from Nussur Khan's

camp now at Mushkai, that there had been a division among the Sirdars, some wishing to take Nussur Khan to Seistan, others to Kej. On the Darogha's return from Nul he joined the Kej party, so thither they will go. It is supposed that Esa Khan, Colonel Stacy's ambassador, will not reach Mushkai before Nussur Khan leaves, but if he does that he will be either slain or imprisoned. Nussur Oollah, another of Stacy's messengers, arrived three days ago here, but is afraid to proceed onwards.

JUNE 2.—Wrote the above to Hammersley and Bean.

JUNE 3.—The reports of the 1st prove incorrect. The Darogha was still at Bughwana, and Faqueer Mahomed at Nul. Nussur Oollah went off yesterday towards Mushkai with the letters to Nussur Khan.

JUNE 4.—Received two letters from Hammersley yesterday evening; replied to. General Brooks and Brigadier Valliant have been superseded for the part they took in the Military Commission on Major Clibborn's defeat at Nufoosk, and directed to return to Bombay. Sir J. Fitzgerald appointed to command the Sind Force. Ghilzais up in arms, and daks from Cabul intercepted. General Nott, with 43rd N. I., a wing of 38th, and Resallah Irregular Horse, proceeds to Khelat-i-Ghilzai, where the rebels are said to be collected in force. At present they have at Khelat-i-Ghilzai a wing 38th, the Shah's 1st and 2nd Infantry, one troop Shah's Horse Artillery, and 1st Regiment Shah's Cavalry.

The first field of barley was cut here on the 1st of this month ; a few have since been cut. Mulberries ripe.

JUNE 5.—Heard that Azad Khan of Kharan had seized and put to death three Ruskhanee chiefs and imprisoned a number of their followers.

JUNE 6.—Last evening two men arrived from the southward, relating very different stories regarding affairs in that quarter. The first, from Kej, states that the young Khan at Mushkai says he will have nothing to do with Esa Khan, who is a notorious liar and blackguard, but that if Colonel Stacy will send Meer Bohire or some other man of respectability he will come to Khelat. The second man, a cossid, with letters from Nussur Khan to Colonel Stacy and Mr. Bell, says that Esa Khan was afraid to proceed further than Nul, from whence he sent the letters to Mushkai by cossid ; that the Khan has written to say he will never make his appearance at Khelat till he has got 15,000 men at his back, as he will never trust a Feringhee more ; that men and provisions are being collected, and Shewaz Khan had joined Nussur Khan with 1,000 men ; Gool Mahomed was at Bughwana ; Faqueer Mahomed at Nul. This is all humbug, or the greater part of it. Received two letters from Hammersley last evening. Wrote to him and Bean to-day.

JUNE 7.—Nothing particular occurred.

JUNE 8.—This morning Colonel Stacy returned from Quetta, confident as ever of getting Nussur Khan to come in. Dak arrived at noon bringing

letters from Inson and others giving an account of a very gallant affair near Khelat-i-Ghilzai, in which four companies 38th N. I., under Colonel Wymer, and a few cavalry and two guns stood the attack of about 4,000 Ghilzais and 1,000 Dooranees, who assailed them for upwards of three hours on the evening of the 29th May, and were finally driven off with very severe loss.

JUNE 9.—Another dak in; a letter from Bean mentioning that the 42nd is to be immediately relieved by a Bombay regiment, and to proceed to Kandahar. This is a cursed bore, such weather as we shall have on the march up, and leaving a fine climate like Khelat.

JUNE 10.—Nothing new to-day. Wrote to Bean.

JUNE 11.—This morning Gholam Khan paid me a visit. Had a long conversation with him. His remarks were very pertinent about Stacy and his doings.

JUNE 12-13.—Nothing particular.

JUNE 14.—Wrote to my father, Thomas, and Mrs. Bevington, to whom I sent my picture. A great commotion and consternation among the ryots, Colonel Stacy having removed Mahomed Ali from office, and put in Dewan Ramoo, who has commenced assessing the cultivated land and screwing the cultivators worse than they ever were even under Mehrab Khan. About 200 went to Colonel Stacy to-day to complain.

JUNE 15.—Wrote a full statement of the above to Hammersley, who is now at Quetta. Afterwards

commenced packing up, destroying letters and papers, the accumulation of eight months.

JUNE 16.—In consequence of the energetic appeals of the ryots and landholders, and of threats of personal appeal to Mr. Ross Bell, Colonel Stacy has been forced to reinstate Rais Mahomed Ali in the office from which he had been removed, and to make some alterations in the assessments.

JUNE 17.—Making preparations for a move into camp.

JUNE 18.—Got magazine and bazaar out into camp.

JUNE 19.—Getting godown out.

JUNE 20.—25th Bombay N. I. arrived at 6-30 a.m., Colonel Farrell commanding, a countryman from near Belfast, a gentlemanly, agreeable man, very young for his rank. Gave the regiment a dinner. Came into camp at noon; very hot; not feeling very well.

JUNE 21.—Still hotter than yesterday. Dined with the 25th Bombay N.I.

JUNE 22.—Marched from Khelat this morning at 3 a.m. Arrived at Giranee, eight miles, at 5-45. Road rather stony. Giranee is a large valley through which runs a small stream, turning a number of mills to the eastward of camp. Very hot.

JUNE 23.—Marched yesterday evening at 9-30. About the eighth mile halted for an hour at a deep well of good water on the right side of the road. First part of the road over undulating stony ground, latter part through a flat uncultivated plain covered

with tufts of southern-wood. Arrived at Sir-i-Karez in the Moonzoochur Valley, 18¾ miles, at 4-45 a.m. Encamped by the side of a very small stream, at the south-west end of a barren hill. Took a cup of tea and a cheroot, lay down, and slept from 6 till 8 o'clock, dozed till ten, received the reports, dressed, and breakfasted at noon.

JUNE 24.—Marched at 2 a.m., over a good road, 10½ miles to the north side of Zend. Encamped half a mile from a small hill on which are the ruined walls of a fort. Forage very plentiful, and the valley well cultivated. About three miles from Sir-i-Karez, after crossing a small stream, the road turns abruptly to the left. About the sixth mile there is a round hill on the left of the road. Arrived in camp at 5-30 a.m.

JUNE 25.—Marched at 1-45 a.m. Night rather cold, sufficiently so for a cloak. Road runs through a flat uncultivated valley about ten miles broad. Last part undulating and stony. Arrived at Dost-Mahomed-ka-Karez at 5-30 a.m., a small village with a good stream of water; partial cultivation immediately around.

JUNE 26.—Marched at 2 a.m. Morning very cold, obliged to wear a cloak all the way. First part of the road through clumps of *jow* jungle; latter part stony and undulating. Arrived at Sheercenab, 10½ miles, at 5-30 a.m. Good water in a karez on the east side of the road.

JUNE 27.—Marched at 1-45. Passed the Moostung Road a mile and turned to the left into the

Teeree Road, which is not well defined. Passed one rather bad nullah. Arrived at Teeree, 11 miles, at 5-30 a.m. Camped in a grassy field, south-east of the town, surrounded by gardens and orchards.

JUNE 28.—Marched at 4 a. m. a mile from camp. Came upon the new road which has been made from Moostung to Quetta through the Luk Pass by a company of Madras Pioneers under Lieut. Outlaw. Arrived at Mobee, six miles, about 6 a. m. Camped on a barren sandy plain about three miles from the entrance to the Luk Pass.

JUNE 29.—Marched at 12 o'clock with a waning moon. At the third mile from camp entered the Luk Pass road, running between high precipitous hills; ascent for two miles in the pass, and descent gradual, till the road enters the valley of Shawl, near Siriab. Camp near a line of karezes. Arrived at 5-30 a.m. In the evening rode into Quetta to Captain Bean's, where I also found Hammersley recovering from the effects of the Noshky fever. Rode out to the staff camp, four miles off, to make my report to the Quarter-Master-General. Dined and slept at Bean's.

JUNE 30.—The regiment marched in eight miles, arrived at 5-30 a.m., and encamped at north-west corner of the town. Called on Brigadier England and staff. Bombay camp two miles north of the town. Force consists of two troops H. A., wing 3rd Cavalry, 3rd Resallahs, Skinner's Horse, Her Majesty's 40th Foot, and 20th and 21st Regiments Bombay N. I. The regiment dined with Bean.

Mrs. Bean was the first lady I had seen for nearly three years.

JULY 1.—Busy in camp all day. Regiment dined with 3rd Cavalry.

JULY 2.—Preparing for a fresh start on the morrow. Tiffed at Bean's; all very kind to me. Dined with Mr. Ross Bell, the Political Agent. Got to bed at 11-30 p.m. At 12 first bugle sounded; got up in a very bad humour after a quarter of an hour's sleep. Detachment marched at 1 a. m. Appointed to detachment staff.

JULY 3.—Detachment consists of a troop 3rd Regiment Bombay Light Cavalry, 15 Shah's 1st Cavalry, 150 recruits H. M.'s 13th Light Infantry, 11 38th Regiment N.I., and 42nd Regiment, giving escort to 350 camels laden with military stores, and 70 laden with treasure, seven lakhs or £70,000. Arrived at Koochlay, 11½ miles, at 5-15 a. m. Thermometer in my tent 103 deg.

JULY 4.—Sunday, marched at 2 a. m. A bad road intersected by ravines and nullahs. Arrived at Hydurzai, 10 miles, at 5-30 a.m.

JULY 5.—Marched at 2 a.m. over a good road about 11 miles to Hykulzai, a large village in an extensive plain; camp on the edge of a small watercourse. Arrived at 5-45 a.m. Cooler than yesterday, with a disagreeable high wind blowing all day.

JULY 6.—Marched at 3 a.m. over a barren plain; crossed two deep dry nullahs and the Lora river with 15 inches of water, five yards broad. Arrived at 5-30 a.m., 7½ miles; encamped on left bank.

Morning rather cold, thermometer 67 deg. at 6 a.m.

JULY 7.—Marched at 3 a.m. Morning very cold indeed. Arrived at Arumbee, 8 miles, at 5-30 a.m.

JULY 8.—Marched at 1 a.m. Morning as yesterday. Entered on the first ascent of the Kojuck Pass at daylight, gradual ascent for five miles. Encamped in a narrow gorge at the bottom of the first very steep ascent. Regiment arrived at 5-30 a.m., 13 miles. Cavalry went five miles further over the pass to Chummun.

CHUMMUN, JULY 9.—The troops and baggage moved in detached portions at different hours. Treasure with its escort started at 1 a.m. and arrived in camp at Chummun at 5 a.m., 4½ miles. From camp at foot of the pass the road lies through a rocky ravine with a very small stream of water trickling through, just sufficient to render the rock slippery, and footing dangerous for camels. This is for half a mile. The road then ascends; when half-way up first ascent a sort of pathway turns off the road to the left abruptly, winds round a hill, and enters a ravine (in which is a small quantity of water) leading to the foot of the pass on the west side of the range of hills. The made or gun road is straight up the ascent till the top of the pass is crowned, then down a steep descent for fifty yards, turns sharp to right for forty yards, and at right angles to left down an exceedingly abrupt descent of a quarter of a mile, when it becomes more gradual. Camels cannot proceed by this road—it is too steep. Half a mile from bottom of abrupt

descent the gun and camel roads again join, and descent is gradual to camp, 2¼ miles. Rear guard arrived in camp at 3 p.m.

JULY 10.—Halted. Went out early in the morning to try and get some *chikoor* (hill grouse); unsuccessful. Therm. 101°.

JULY 11.—Marched at 7 p.m.; four miles of gradual descent, road rather stony, passes through low bushes, then enter on the open plain. At 12th mile is a low range of hills to the right; halted for an hour and had supper and a cup of coffee. At 20th mile it passed through another low range of hills and turned to the right, four miles to Colzai, a small ruined fort, near which is a reservoir of brackish water and a single tree. Good water in the hills, two miles north-west of camp. Europeans completely knocked up on this march. Arrived at Colzai, 24 miles, at 4 a.m. Thermometer in my tent 112°.

JULY 12.—Halted.

JULY 13.—Marched at 1 a.m. Lost the road about four miles from camp; obliged to gallop on about eight miles to turn all the baggage back into the right road. Arrived at Mel Mundee, 13½ miles, at 5¼ a.m. Encamped in dry bed of a large river with a small stream of water and reservoir.

JULY 14.—Marched at 1 a.m. and arrived at Tukht-i-Pool, 11 miles, at 5 a.m. Camp on a smooth sandy plain on the left bank of the Doree river.

JULY 15.—Marched at 1 a.m. to Dih Hajee, a large village, 12½ miles. Arrived at 5½ a.m.

JULY 16.—Marched at 1 a.m. Pitched the camp

near Kooshab, 11 miles, and rode on to Kandahar, 8 miles. A very gallant affair has taken place near Ghirishk, 70 miles west. Akhtur Khan, Chief of Zamindawur, having assembled a large force, threatened Ghirishk. Captain Woodburn's regiment (Shah's 5th) and a couple of H. A. guns, with two regiments of Jân-bâz (mounted Afghans), were sent out to drive him off. Captain Woodburn encamped on the left bank of the Helmund about sunset. Akhtur Khan with 6,000 men crossed the river to attack him. Woodburn had only time to strike his camp and get into position, when he was attacked. He had sent the two Jân-bâz regiments down to the river to check the enemy in crossing, but these rascals proved treacherous and would not fight: in fact while Woodburn was engaged with the enemy the Jân-bâz were employed plundering his (Woodburn's) baggage. The enemy came on fiercely to the attack, and charged the guns repeatedly, but were each time checked by discharges of grape poured in at fifty yards. They surrounded Woodburn so completely that Lieut. Clerk, commanding three companies on a flank, was at one time obliged to put his rear rank to the rightabout and fire front and rear at the same time. The only other instance on record of this being done was by the 28th Foot—I think in Egypt—and they in consequence wear their cap ornaments both on the front and back of the cap. The enemy retired about 8 p.m., having lost 400 men. Woodburn had exclusive charge of the Jân-bâz, about 550 men and 2 guns, in action.

JULY 17.—The regiment arrived at sunrise, and marched into their barracks.

JULY 18.—Unpacking and getting my quarters in order.

JULY 19.—Very hot; took up my position in a Taikhana, or underground room, where the thermometer stands at 94°, being 100° in the upper rooms.

JULY 20.—Dreadfully hot and oppressive. Called on some of the officers of the 38th in the evening.

JULY 21.—Parade in the morning to explain order regarding camels.

JULY 22.—Called on some of the residents in the evening.

JULY 23.—Called on Mrs. Cooper and a few others. Do not feel much inclined to pay these visits; perform it as a necessary task—the sooner got over the better. Wrote to Colonel Dennie.

JULY 24.—Got over a few more disagreeable visits.

JULY 25.—This morning, at 7 o'clock, as Mr. O'Gorman, the Political Agent's head writer, was passing through the streets, a native came up suddenly and stabbed him in the belly with a knife. Though the street was crowded, and numbers of the police at hand, no one attempted to seize the murderer. On the contrary, they called out *shahbash!* ("well done!") and patted him on the back. The rascal would have escaped had not one of our light company sepoys come up, and seeing what had taken place struck him to the ground with a stick, and secured him. He was taken to the Political Agent's, where Prince Timour ordered him to be

blown away from a gun. This was done at 1 p. m. Mr. O'Gorman died about the same time. The man proved to be a Ghazee, sworn to kill a European officer. He confessed there were 18 others who had taken the same oath, and would act up to it.

JULY 26.—Wrote to my mother. Sent in application for leave of absence from 15th October to 15th April to proceed to Bombay, preparatory to furlough.

JULY 27 and 28.—Nothing occurred.

JULY 29.—Went to the Hamaum or hot bath; got well scrubbed and cleaned.

JULY 30 and 31.—Nothing.

AUGUST 1.—Sunday. As usual. Heard from H. that Colonel Stacy had brought Nussur Khan to Khelat.

AUGUST 2.—Up at daylight for muster.

AUGUST 3.—Overland mails with London papers of 5th June arrived. Received intelligence of the death, at Quetta, of Mr. Ross Bell, Political Agent in Upper Sind.

AUGUST 4.—Weather getting a little cooler.

AUGUST 5.—Received a letter from Robert, dated 27th May.

AUGUST 6.—Wrote to Colonel Young.

AUGUST 7.—Busy with office work; settling accounts.

AUGUST 8.—Sunday. As usual.

AUGUST 9.—Heard of the rising of the Achukzai tribe for the purpose of cutting off, in the Kojuck Pass, the return convoy under Captain Walker, and

which is escorted by one troop Cavalry and 40 sowars, Christie's Horse.

AUGUST 10, 11, and 12.—Nothing new : one day same as the next.

AUGUST 19.—Received an account of the total defeat of the allied armies of Akhtur Khan of Zamindawur and Akrum Khan of Durrawut by a detachment of the regulars and Shah's troops, on the 17th. Of our troops 20 were killed and 100 wounded ; of the enemy 800 killed, wounded *besh-skumar*. Captain Bill, 2nd N.I., died here last evening.

AUGUST 25.—16th Regiment N.I. arrived this morning from the Ghilzie country. Colonel Maclaren and the officers dined with us at the mess : late sitting, and much beer consumed.

SEPTEMBER 2.—The overland, bringing London papers up to 5th July, arrived.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Received a letter from my mother, dated 26th June, and one from William, dated Montreal, 12th May.

SEPTEMBER 5.—The 43rd Regiment arrived from the Ghilzie country.

SEPTEMBER 8.—Captain Leeson and part of Shah's 1st Cavalry arrived. Yesterday the force which is intended to proceed into Teereen, about 80 miles north of this, moved into camp. It is to consist of two 18-pounders, two 6-pounders, S. H. A., a few Resallahs of 1st Cavalry, Wing 2nd N.I., 38th N.I, the whole under command of Colonel Wymer, 38th N.I. A few marches on it will be

joined by part of the force now in Zamindawur under Captain Griffin, viz., two 6-pounders, Shah's H. A., 4 Resallahs 1st Shah's Cavalry, left Wing 2nd N.I., and 5th Regiment Shah's, also Captain Hart's Regiment of Jân-bâz (Afghan horsemen).

SEPTEMBER 11.—Colonel Wymer's detachment marched. The natives in the town are impressed with the idea that this force is intended for Herat, and that Durrawut is merely given out as a blind. This report will spread all over the country, from Herat to Persia and Russia, and may be attended with evil consequences.

SEPTEMBER 16.—Captain Macan's regiment (Shah's 2nd) arrived from Khelat-i-Ghilzai.

SEPTEMBER 17.—A large party given by the 16th N.I. to all the officers in Kandahar. Not liking parties of this sort, did not go. All very drunk, very noisy, and I should say very disagreeable.

SEPTEMBER 18.—The light company under Lieutenant Wollen ordered to accompany General Nott to join the force at Durrawut under Colonel Wymer. They marched in the evening.

SEPTEMBER 30.—Overland mail of 5th August arrived.

OCTOBER 1.—Received a reply to my application for leave of absence:—"The lieutenant is required to renew his application on return of his regiment to Hindostan." Cool and pleasant certainly. Notwithstanding, wrote immediately another letter, making out as strong a case of urgency as I well could, and applying for leave from the date of my

regiment crossing the Indus. Sent it off to General Nott for countersignature and transmission to head-quarters.

OCTOBER 7.—Received a letter, dated 26th July, from my father. All well, thank God.

OCTOBER 8.—First day of the Kandahar races. Not much sport—indeed, I never could see much in these "sky races."

OCTOBER 13.—Received orders to send in indents, &c., and to make all preparations for the return of the regiment to Hindostan.

OCTOBER 18.—Received intelligence from Cabul of a party of Ghilzies having occupied the Koord Cabul Pass on the road to Jellalabad, where they were erecting breastworks, &c. Colonel Monteith and the 35th Regiment N.I. were sent out to stop them in their works and clear the pass. Colonel Monteith unwisely pitched his camp too close to the entrance of the pass, and during the night the Ghilzies occupied the adjacent heights and opened a fire on the camp. Captain Younghusband and Lieut. Coombe were wounded, and twenty-four of the sepoys killed and wounded. On this news reaching Cabul, General Sale was ordered out with H.M.'s 13th L.I. to the same place. He attacked the works and drove the Ghilzies to the hills. Lieut. Mein was killed and General Sale severely wounded in this affair. No further particulars yet received.

OCTOBER 23.—H. M.'s 40th Regiment arrived, also 4 nine-pounders. This morning was witness to a most disgusting spectacle, such as I never again

wish to see. Akrum Khan, Chief of Durrawut, who was made prisoner some weeks ago by Lieut. Conolly, was by Shah Soojah sentenced to be blown away from a gun. The warrant for his execution having arrived from Cabul, it was this morning carried into effect. Two companies 42nd were ordered to be under arms at 7 a.m. on the parade, and the remainder of the regiment to be in readiness in the barracks to turn out at a moment's warning, in case of the inhabitants creating any disturbance in consequence of the (to them) unheard-of circumstance of the execution of a Chief. As I was obliged to be present, I thought I might as well have a good view of all that was going on, so I mounted on the rampart of the citadel immediately above where the execution was to take place. At 10 o'clock, Prince Timour (the Shah's eldest son) having held a durbar, at which all the chief natives of Kandahar were present to hear the sentence on Akrum Khan read, the prisoner was led out, preceded by the kotwal and surrounded by the police, and brought to one side of our parade square, to which place a nine-pounder gun had been wheeled up. He was dressed in a pink silk shirt and dark-coloured pyjamahs with a small dark-coloured skull-cap on his head, a *poshteen* being thrown over his shoulders. He was a young, good-looking man of about 35, and walked steadily up to the gun. When he arrived at the gun the gunners commenced loading, putting in a double charge of blank cartridge only. This I thought might as well have been done be-

forehand. After this the prisoner was placed with the middle of his back squeezed against the muzzle of the gun, his legs and arms being tightly bound to the wheels and carriage, the upper part of the body thrown rather back. A policeman was then despatched to the Prince to say all was ready, and the order was given by the Prince to proceed. This the policeman brought from the palace, and, the distance being considerable, a delay of nearly ten minutes occurred. It was horrible to look at the poor wretch during this time : he did not speak, but stared around with a wild, bewildered look. When the order was given to the kotwal, the match was applied ; the head, upper part of the chest, and one arm were thrown upwards, turning over and over in the air, and falling about thirty yards from the gun. One leg remained attached to the wheel, the other was thrown one hundred yards to the right, the centre part of the body was scattered about in all directions, a large piece of flesh or entrails was sent over my head and fell in the citadel yard on the other side of the rampart. Altogether this was rather a disgusting spectacle. It does not appear to have created much sensation among the inhabitants, though it was rather an unusual way of treating a man of Akrum Khan's rank.

OCTOBER 24.—Last evening we gave a large party at the mess, inviting all the officers of H.M.'s 40th Regiment, and all the staff of the garrison to meet them. We had a large assembly, a good dinner and wines, and altogether a more agreeable party

than things of the kind generally turn out. Got to bed about one o'clock.

OCTOBER 25.—This morning a grand race for a pair of shawls, given by Prince Timour Shah, won by Captain Blood's (Bombay Artillery) horse Fusilier, beating four others.

NOVEMBER 1.—General Nott and his detachment arrived from Durrawut. Overland mail of the 4th September arrived. Received a letter, dated 23rd August, from my father and mother.

NOVEMBER 2.—Packing up preparatory to a move into camp to-morrow morning.

NOVEMBER 3.—Once more in camp, outside the Dooranee Gate. Dined with H.M.'s 40th.

NOVEMBER 4.—This morning all the troops of every description at Kandahar were drawn up in line on the grand parade for the purpose of exhibiting our force to the Prince ——, a Persian refugee and heir presumptive to the Persian throne, who has been in Kandahar for some time. The troops were drawn up in line as follows:—From the right, three Resallahs Skinner's Horse; troop Shah's Horse Artillery; battery of 9-pounders Bombay Artillery; H.M.'s 40th Foot; 16th Regiment N.I.; 38th Regiment N.I.; 42nd Regiment N.I.; 43rd Regiment N.I.; 2nd Regiment N.I.; 5 Resallahs Shah's 1st Cavalry. I was called out to act as Aide-de-Camp to the General. About 8 the Prince Timour Shah and the Persian Prince, accompanied by a very large retinue, appeared at the right of the line, whither we (the General and his tail of staff) went to receive

him. We rode down slowly in front of the line, each regiment presenting arms on the approach of the *cortége*, after which we galloped up to the centre, saluting flag. The troops then broke into open column right in front, and passed in review at slow time. Altogether rather an imposing sight for those who had not seen the army under Sir H. Fane at Ferozepoor.

NOVEMBER 8.—Marched from Kandahar to Kooshab, nine miles.

NOVEMBER 9.—A short time after the beating of the "general," and as we were getting ready to march, an express arrived from General Nott with orders to halt till further orders, so camels were again unloaded and tents pitched. The reason of this appears to be an express from Colonel Palmer at Ghuzni, saying the country towards Cabul was up in arms, and that Captain Woodburn and a hundred sepoys had been attacked and cut up half-way to Cabul. What good we can do by halting here I cannot comprehend; dreadfully cold nights and mornings, ice an inch thick,—cannot keep warm in bed.

NOVEMBER 10.—Still halted.

NOVEMBER 14.—Changed our ground of encampment four miles to the westward. The tents had not been pitched an hour when an express arrived from Kandahar with orders to march back immediately. Tents were again struck, camels called in from graze, and we marched back to Kandahar, encamping two miles from the Cabul Gate, on the Cabul road. The cause of this retrograde movement

was a message from Sir W. Macnaghten and General Elphinstone, dated Cabul, 3rd November, directing the 2nd Brigade to be recalled and sent up to Cabul forthwith, as the whole of the Dooranee Chiefs and their followers had risen in insurrection, were in possession of the city of Cabul, and besieging the Shah in the Bala Hissar, or citadel. Orders had been given to shell the Dooranee quarter of the city, and this when the messengers left was half in ruins and on fire in half a dozen places. The whole of the Cabul and surrounding districts were up in arms, in rebellion against the Shah. The Afghans when they wish to stop the communication search most strictly every person passing through the country, stripping him stark naked, and changing his clothes, lest a letter of the smallest description should be concealed. The plan adopted on the present occasion was as follows: it is common enough in Burmah, but was new to the Afghans. The communication was written on a slip of thin paper rolled up and put into a quill, which was then sealed up, and this the messenger carried from Cabul in his body. So they say, I did not see it. Since this there has been no letter from Cabul, or even from Ghuzni.

November 15.—Busy getting out another one hundred rounds per man of ammunition. A troop of Shah's H.A. joined our camp.

November 16.—Sent our sick into Kandahar.

November 17.—Marched from Kandahar at 6-30 a.m. and arrived at Killa Azeem, fifteen miles,

at 10-45. Road very good over a sandy, undulating plain ; encamped half-mile east of the fort. Killa Azeem is a small square fort, each face about 80 yards. Very few inhabitants. A ruined village outside the walls. Water rather brackish. Lieutenant Olpherts, H. M.'s 40th, joined our camp. I have given him half of my tent ; he has been appointed Aide-de-Camp to his uncle Sir W. Macnaghten, the new Governor of Bombay, and is proceeding to join him at Cabul.

NOVEMBER 18.—Marched at 6 a.m. fifteen miles to Killa Akhoon, a small village with a large domed mosque or tomb ; arrived at 11-15. About the thirteenth mile the road, which had passed over an undulating desert plain, comes on the bank of the Turnuk River, along which it runs under a low range of barren hills. Camped between the road and left bank of the river, which is here about six yards broad, rapid and muddy, from the late rains in the hills.

NOVEMBER 19.—Marched at 7 a.m. eleven miles to Shuhur-i-Suffa, an old ruined fort on the top of a large mound ; arrived at 10-45. Road very narrow in parts, from the rivers and canals cutting close into the hills.

NOVEMBER 20.—Marched as usual about eleven miles to Teerandaz ; arrived at 12. A great number of water-cuts in the roads. No village or fort here ; nothing but a small octagonal minar.

NOVEMBER 21.—Marched at the usual time—road very bad at starting—nine miles to Asseeab-i-Ilmee ; no village or fort ; arrived at 10-30 a.m.

NOVEMBER 22.—Marched at usual hour, and arrived at Asseeab-i-Auzara, eleven miles of good road, at 11 a.m. Morning very cold. A letter from Major Leech, Political Agent at Khelat-i-Ghilzai, states that Colonel Palmer, Commandant of Ghuzni, had despatched Guddoo Khan and fifty of his sowars to carry despatches received from Cabul to Kandahar. Guddoo Khan is commander of 100 sowars, and is in our pay; he had gone up to Ghuzni with Lieutenant Crawford and 100 of the Shah's 1st Cavalry in charge of prisoners, Akrum Khan's relations. Near Nanee, one march from Ghuzni, they were attacked by a large party. Guddoo Khan wished to be allowed to kill the prisoners, but Crawford would not consent, and the result was that they escaped, and Crawford's party were obliged to gallop for their lives into Ghuzni, losing all the baggage and upwards of sixty men. Guddoo Khan having been sent off with the despatches arrived safely at Mookoor, about half-way to Khelat-i-Ghilzai. When near this he was attacked by upwards of 1,000 men, and obliged with his fifty to run for it. He got into a small fort in which were three men; here they considered themselves safe, as the men were in our pay. During the night these three rascals with their *loonghees* drew up a great number of the enemy into the tower in which they were. These suddenly attacked Guddoo Khan's party, who with their chief were all cut to pieces except five common sowars, who escaped to Khelat-i-Ghilzai. All the despatches were lost, but the

sowars say that at Ghuzni it was known that Sir W. Macnaghten had purchased the services of the Kohistanis and Kuzzilbashes with two lakhs each. These in conjunction with our troops attacked the Suliman Khail division of Cabul, which was in ruins, and the slaughter had been fearful. Sir A. Burnes's brother had been murdered.

NOVEMBER 23.—Marched at 7 a.m. twelve miles to Khelat-i-Ghilzai; arrived at 12. Here is a large and very high natural mound on which there was formerly a very strong fort. This was destroyed upwards of 100 years ago by Nadir Shah. Out of the ruins very good barracks for one regiment have been built. In these is the Shah's 5th Regiment. The mound, which is about 300 feet high and three-quarters of a mile round the top, has been partly fortified, walled, and scarped. On the works are two 18-pounder and six 9- and 6-pounder guns. A fine spring of water in the centre of the mound.

NOVEMBER 24.—Marched as usual ten miles to Sir-i-Asp; arrived at 10-30. No villages visible from camp; plenty of forage; very cold mornings now, with sharp cutting wind.

NOVEMBER 25.—Marched at 7; nine miles of good road along the bank of the Turnuk, and arrived at Nowruk at 10-45.

NOVEMBER 26.—Marched at 7; very heavy rain and most severe cold; pitched our camp about four miles short of Tazee, the usual halting-ground. Before the tents came up a very heavy fall of snow came on. Got the tents pitched with the greatest

10318

difficulty, the servants being quite benumbed with the cold. Alternation of snow, sleet, hail and rain throughout the day ; everything and everybody in a most wretched plight from wet and cold.

NOVEMBER 27.—Obliged to halt on account of the heavy rain and snow. Got a pickaxe and cut up a quantity of brushwood, made a large fire in the tent, and employed all day in drying clothes, boots, &c. ; half-blinded by the smoke. Rain and snow all day.

NOVEMBER 28.—Still halted on account of the dreadful weather. Very heavy rain in the morning, and snow commenced at 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER 29.—Not yet able to move on account of the heavy rain and snow, which continued almost without intermission day and night ; great mortality among the godown cattle.

NOVEMBER 30.—Still halted (Tuesday). Last night at 8 p.m. a very heavy fall of snow and hail, which continued for three hours, after which hard frost set in and the sky cleared. Bitterly cold. Thermometer in a tent 31°. A committee sat to-day to inquire into the state of the cattle and supplies ; the gomashtas report only 400 asses able to carry loads, and all sorts of other lies, which they hope may induce Colonel Maclaren to turn back to Kandahar.

DECEMBER 1.—Fine, clear, frosty weather with exceedingly cold wind, blowing particularly at night. After breakfast walked through the camp to look at the state of the cattle. Saw at least 1,000 asses able to carry loads, and very few dead, certainly not above seventy or eighty in and around the camp.

DECEMBER 2.—Last night it was determined to retrograde, all interested in returning expressing their opinion of the impracticability of further porgress. My opinion was different. I could see no great or insurmountable obstacle to our advance, and I look on our return as little short of disgraceful. Marched at 7 a.m.—fine, clear, frosty morning, very cold—to Nowruk.

DECEMBER 3.—Ditto to Sir-i-Asp.

DECEMBER 4.—Ditto to Khelat-i-Ghilzai. Left here three companies 43rd N.I. and forty European artillerymen.

DECEMBER 5.—Ditto to beyond Asseeab-i-Hazara.

DECEMBER 6.—Ditto to near Teerandaz ; weather become very much milder.

DECEMBER 7.—To Shuhur-i-Suffa. Cloudy weather, threatening rain.

DECEMBER 8.—To Killa Akhoon. Fine morning, mild with clear weather.

DECEMBER 9.—To three miles beyond Killa Azeem.

DECEMBER 10.—To Kandahar ; encamped at burying-ground.

DECEMBER 11 and 12.—Making preparations for a move into quarters in the city.

DECEMBER 13.—Moved into the city.

DECEMBER 25.—Christmas day. Wrote to my father. In the evening dined with a large party at Lieutenant Jackson's, Assistant Political Agent. The cloth was not off the table when the bugles sounded the "alarm." All the troops in garrison

were immediately under arms, and we were proceeding to the rendezvous in front of the citadel, when we received the order to return to our barracks. The cause of this turn-out was that a few sepoys of the 16th Regiment N.I. had been attacked close to the new barracks, outside the city, by a party of Afghans, who mortally wounded one of them. A large body of cavalry was also reported to be near the barracks, but this, I believe, was incorrect. We had not been reseated at table half an hour when again the "alarm" sounded, and again we paraded. I was sent off to the citadel for orders, and found it was a false alarm, General Nott having mistaken the bugles at "tattoo"-beating in the new barracks for the "alarm."

DECEMBER 26.—Everything quiet during the day.

DECEMBER 27.—At 5 a.m. the regiment turned out, the "alarm" having been given by a havildar of the Herat Gate guard rushing into our barracks, saying that some officers outside the walls had been murdered, and the Janbaz regiment had mutinied. Paraded in the Herat street. Galloped up to the Fort Adjutant in the citadel for orders. Directed to remain where we were under arms and await further orders. Remained out till 8 a.m., when we returned to barracks. Two Janbaz (Irregular Afghan Cavalry) regiments were in camp under the city walls, and were in orders to march this morning to Ghirishk, under their respective commanders, Lieutenants Golding and Wilson, accompanied by Lieutenant Patterson as Assistant

Political Agent. About 4 a.m. about twenty of these villains rushed to Lieutenant Golding's tent, in which were himself and Lieutenant Patterson. A chuprassie of the latter, seeing them, instantly ran in and alarmed his master, who in some extraordinary manner got out of the tent, though it was filled with the assailants, jumped on a horse which was standing close by, and galloped off to the Herat Gate of the city, where he was admitted by the guard. During the momentary scuffle, and while getting out of the camp, he received no fewer than nine very severe sword cuts; none of them are supposed to be mortal, but he is in a dangerous state. He has lost three fingers of the left hand; a wound in the knee is supposed to be the most serious. Poor Golding, before he awoke, probably received a sword cut which nearly severed the head from the body, and must have caused instant death. His body was found in a small ditch about fifty yards from his tent, cut and hacked in a most horrible manner. After the murderers had finished their work they went over to the camp of Lieutenant Wilson's regiment, which was close at hand, and tried to persuade his men to sacrifice their commander also, but they refused. Golding's Janbaz regiment then mounted in a body and galloped off, no one knows where exactly. As soon as these circumstances were known, the Shah's 1st Cavalry, under Captain Leeson, three Resallahs of Skinner's Horse, and Wilson's Janbaz were sent off in pursuit. They overtook the greater part of the runaways

about ten miles off and killed about sixty of the rascals, among them Sirdar Kallunter Khan, whose head was brought in, and is now suspended in the Charsoo. Attended poor Golding's funeral at 4 p.m.

DECEMBER 28.—During the night Golding's body was dug up by some scoundrels and stripped and left on the side of the grave. It was re-interred in the morning. Wrote the particulars of his death to his uncle, Mr. Macartney, of Lisanore Castle.

DECEMBER 29.—Prince Suftur Jung, the Shah's third son, deserted from the citadel, and has gone out to join the rebel chiefs in the district.

DECEMBER 30.—Wet and cold.

DECEMBER 31.—A large party at the mess.

1842.

JANUARY 1.—Reports of the assembly of large parties of the enemy in different parts of the district.

JANUARY 9.—A foraging party of thirty men of the 43rd Regiment Native Infantry attacked by a large party of horse about five miles from Kandahar. They drove the enemy off and brought all the forage camels, losing a havildar killed and six men wounded.

JANUARY 11.—Our mess shepherd killed close to the walls, and some of our sheep carried off. Reports brought in of a large body of the enemy having assembled on the Urgundab River at the bund, which turns the water into the canals which supply the city. Here they cut the bund and

stopped the mouths of the canals. Those in the city are all dry, but we have numerous wells.

JANUARY 12.—At daylight General Nott marched with the following troops to attack the enemy:—Her Majesty's 40th Regiment, 2nd, 16th, 38th, and left wing 42nd Regiment N.I., Shah's 5th Infantry, Shah's 1st Cavalry, Captain Blood's battery of 9-pounders, and Shah's 1st and 2nd troops Horse Artillery, altogether about 4,500 fighting men. The cantonments were deserted. The garrison of the city consisted of right wing 42nd, 43rd (six companies) N. I., and the Shah's 1st and 2nd Regiments of Infantry, the whole under command of Major Clarkson, 42nd. I wished to go out with my company, which is in the left wing, but Major Clarkson would not allow me, as he wished to keep me with himself. All the gates of the city and all the shops were shut as soon as the troops marched out, and no Afghan was allowed to appear in the streets. Parties were posted on the ramparts, and every preparation made to repel an attack from without and to quell any insurrection of the townspeople. About 2 p.m. I from the top of the house observed with a telescope large bodies of cavalry and infantry moving from the south towards the north-west. I immediately galloped up to the citadel and reported the same to Major Clarkson. The troops were got under arms, and intelligence sent off to General Nott to prevent his being taken by surprise by this detachment of the rebel army, who were moving in his direction. We observed the party, who halted for half an hour some two

miles from the walls. About 3-30 p.m. move off to their left, and pass through a gorge in the range of hills west of Kandahar.

JANUARY 13.—Yesterday, at 11 a.m., General Nott's force reached the banks of the Urgundab. Here they came in sight of the enemy, part in position on a rising ground and village one and a half miles from the river, part marching to join. As the banks were steep and the river rapid, it took some time to cross the guns and troops : their crossing was not opposed by the enemy. The troops advanced in two columns of mass, the guns on the flanks. The enemy's position was found to be strong. They had flooded the fields, and filled the small deep cuts with water, the swamp and ditches offering serious obstacles to an advance, and being all but impassable by light guns. The enemy in front were covered by low walls close to the edge of the swamp, the infantry in the centre, the cavalry on the flanks. When within 800 yards light companies of regiments went in front to skirmish, but were soon recalled in the hope that the enemy, seeing them running off, might be induced to move from their position. They saw through the *ruse*. The guns then opened, without much effect, and the columns advanced and part deployed, keeping up a heavy fire. The enemy found their position too hot. They broke and fled in all directions, the chiefs heading the flight. The cavalry and two 6-pounders pursued, but as it took them some time to clear the swamp the cavalry of the enemy got clear away.

About 100 of the footmen were cut up, and they lost perhaps fifty or sixty before they broke. Our loss consisted of six killed and about a dozen or so wounded. Three officers were wounded, Lieut. Lees, H. M.'s 40th, Captain MacDowell, Shah's 5th, and Lieut. Chamberlain, Shah's 1st Cavalry. About 4 p.m. the troops were ordered to return to garrison. No proper arrangements were made to assist the guns; the regiments all went on for some distance, and the 2nd troop Horse Artillery got stuck in the swamp; one gun completely upset in a ditch. When this was reported, the General sent back the Shah's 5th Regiment. The 38th and wing 42nd were afterwards sent back, but it was too late to extricate the guns, so these troops bivouacked for the night near the river: a bitter cold night it was, without shelter, thermometer at 25°. In the morning the guns were got out and all returned to Kandahar, very much disgusted at the generalship displayed by General Nott, and at the little impression they were able to make on the enemy, who will probably assemble again before very long. Thus ended the battle of the Urgundab. About a week ago a native doctor and six sepoys deserted from the Shah's 2nd Regiment to the enemy. Of these two were killed in the fight, and one was taken prisoner. The number of the enemy on this occasion is not easily ascertained, but there were about 1,500 cavalry and perhaps from three to four thousand infantry.

JANUARY 18.—Purchased Don Juan, a grey Arab,

from Lieutenant Moocroft, for Rs. 400; paid the money. Reports of the rebel army having dispersed, chiefly towards Gurmhut.

JANUARY 19.—All the shops are again open, and the town filling fast. Fine mild weather.

JANUARY 23.—This being the Eed festival, some disturbance was anticipated. We were all under orders at 8 o'clock, and kept out till noon, when the Shahzada Timour returned from the Eedgah, and all danger was supposed to be over.

JANUARY 24.—This morning it was reported that a large body of horse were seen moving down towards the Chummun. Captain Leeson's regiment of cavalry were sent to drive them off, but they had retired before he arrived, having "lifted" eighteen camels. Pursuit was vain.

JANUARY 27.—Some news was received in the rebel camp to-day which created great excitement, a *feu de joie* was fired, and great rejoicing throughout the day. Something disastrous must have occurred at Cabul, of which we are still ignorant. It is reported that Shah Soojah's name has been struck out of the morning prayer, and Shahzada Suftur Jung inserted as king. He has taken command of the rebel army. Also that Yar Mahomed, Wuzeer of Herat, has been murdered, and that the rebel army is to have guns and other assistance from Shah Kamran at Herat.

JANUARY 30.—This morning a horseman arrived from Quetta, bringing a few letters and papers in the stuffing of his saddle. Towards the end of last

month Sir W. Macnaghten was, by the Chiefs at Cabul, invited to a conference to be held half-way between the city and cantonments. He went without a guard, as agreed on, and attended by Captains Lawrence and Mackenzie, Lieutenant Conolly, and another officer, all unarmed. They were suddenly set upon by the Chiefs, the Envoy and two of the officers butchered on the spot, and Lieutenant Conolly and another carried off prisoners to the city. Matters cannot well be worse at Cabul. We have a report to-day that our troops have evacuated it, and endeavoured to force their way to Jellalabad. This is not improbable, as they must have been short ere this both of provisions and ammunition.

FEBRUARY 5.—Last night a small guard of a naik and four sepoys over some camels, within a short distance of the new barracks, was attacked and the whole killed by a small party of the enemy, who cut off and carried away the heads and all the arms and accoutrements, also six of the camels. The sentry could not have been on the alert, or this could not have happened. The guard belong to the 16th Regiment N.I.

FEBRUARY 6.—To day small parties of the enemy's horse were seen moving about the plain to the southward.

FEBRUARY 8.—Orders issued for all the cavalry, sixteen guns, H. M.'s 40th Foot, the 16th, 38th, 42nd and 43rd Regiments N. I., with four companies Shah's 2nd, to be in readiness to march on the 10th to attack the enemy, who have taken up a very

strong position at Char Sakur, thirty-five miles to the west on the Ghirishk road.

FEBRUARY 9.—Orders were issued to disarm all the natives in the town. While these were being carried into effect all the troops in the garrison were kept under arms. Very heavy rain. The order for our march to-morrow countermanded until the weather becomes more favourable.

FEBRUARY 10.—Very heavy rain during the night; several houses washed down.

FEBRUARY 11.—Weather cleared up, but the country much flooded.

FEBRUARY 14.—Heavy snow last night, lying about four inches deep.

FEBRUARY 15.—Still heavier snow with very hard frost.

FEBRUARY 16.—Still heavier snow with very hard frost.

FEBRUARY 18.—Weather cleared up.

FEBRUARY 20.—Much milder; no frost.

FEBRUARY 21.—All the private camels sent out to the village of Rosabad to procure *bhoosa*, under a guard of three companies of the 16th Regiment N.I. and forty sowars. While loading the bhoosa, a body of the enemy's cavalry showed themselves in the vicinity of the village, part of them entering it, which was the signal for the villagers, who with the cavalry attacked the servants and sepoys in the village, the guard being outside at some distance, and threatened by other bodies of cavalry. A fearful massacre took place of the unarmed camp

followers, those who escaped from the village being cut up by the cavalry outside. We lost 300 camels and 160 servants, besides thirty sepoys and sowars. The heads of all were cut off and carried away by the enemy. My share of this loss was three servants and three camels, none of which I can replace. As soon as the General heard of the attack, he went out with a troop H. A., the cavalry, and 38th Regiment N. I., but the enemy had retired with their spoil before his arrival at the village, which is twelve miles south of Kandahar. The troops in town and cantonments under arms from 11 a.m. till 10 p.m. The cantonments are now nightly attacked by small parties of the enemy, which they do merely for the purpose of harassing our troops by continual alarms.

FEBRUARY 22.—Cantonments attacked at night, as usual ; no loss.

FEBRUARY 23.—Large bodies of the enemy's cavalry seen moving about on the plain to the south. The rebel chiefs sent in to offer us terms ! ! ! which were, that if we abandoned all our treasure, guns, stores, and ammunition, we should be allowed to retire to Quetta unmolested. No answer was given. Cantonments attacked. Troops under arms all night.

FEBRUARY 24.—Four horsemen from Cabul arrived in the rebel camp, two others having perished from cold, or in the snow by the way. They brought orders from Mahomed Akbar Khan, commander-in-chief of the rebel army at Cabul, to the rebel chiefs

here, directing them to disperse their cavalry in parties of 2,000 in different directions around Kandahar. These to cut off all small detachments, forage parties, &c., and to annoy our troops by continual alarms, night attacks, and in every possible way to prevent supplies coming into the city, but on no account to hazard a general action of their combined forces with ours, and that by the end of March Mahomed Akbar Khan would be at Kandahar with 40,000 men and thirty guns.

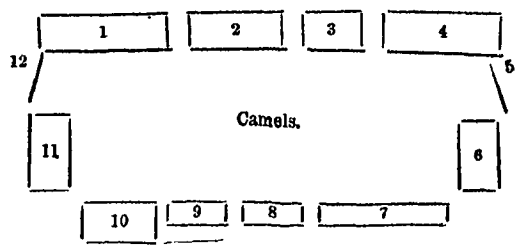
FEBRUARY 25.—2nd and 42nd Regiments N. I., Shah's 2nd Regiment Infantry, and about 600 Cavalry ordered to escort the commissariat camels to procure forage. Started at 6 a.m., proceeding about nine miles to south-west. Loaded most of the camels at a large village, the remainder at another village two miles nearer Kandahar, on our way back. About 1½ p.m., just as we had finished loading these, a body of the enemy's horse showed themselves on the rising ground to the west, which soon increased to about 2,000 with a few footmen. We pushed on the camels as quickly as possible, and the enemy advancing we wheeled up into line and loaded. The enemy advanced, throwing out skirmishers, who fired and galloped back to their party. The distance was too great, and the aim of a horseman at speed rather unsteady, so that no harm was done. When we attempted to advance on the body of cavalry, they immediately fell back, and we could never come within shot. As our great object was to get all our convoy safe into Kandahar, we at last

began to move on on our return. As our cavalry horses were in the worst possible condition—indeed, they were so completely knocked up as to be unable to get into a gallop—the cavalry were not allowed to charge. As we moved on our road the enemy advanced as before, but we took no notice, in the hope of inducing them to come closer. At last one large body got separated and charged with loud yells down towards the 2nd Regiment, which was in column, but the sections were wheeled up and a volley poured into the advancing mass, but at too great a distance, and no great damage was done; however, it made the enemy sheer off to the right and pass by the left to the opposite side of the road. Another similar charge soon after took place, when the enemy were driven back on their main body, but with no great loss. In these charges the infantry fire ought to be reserved until the enemy is within thirty paces, as it is seldom necessary to form a square against this description of cavalry. It is not easy to restrain our men from firing too soon when they see a body charging down with shouts and yells as of devils, firing their matchlocks at 200 yards, and drawing their swords. No other charge took place, nor did the enemy again approach very near us. A good deal of desultory firing (always useless and ineffective) took place on both sides, and a very unnecessary expenditure of ammunition. As we approached some villages and gardens, the enemy drew off, and we had no means of ascertaining their loss; ours was slight.

At sunset we reached Kandahar with our convoy safe, not having lost a single camel.

MARCH 6.—Preparing to march out into the district to attack the enemy, said to be assembled in force.

MARCH 7.—Marched at daybreak, each officer allowed to take one camel for his baggage; no tents except a mess tent for each regiment. Weather pleasant. Marched about six miles, when a body of the enemy's cavalry appeared on our right flank. Our cavalry and two horse artillery guns, supported by a few companies of infantry, went in pursuit. The enemy stood still within range of the 6-pounders and then went off like the wind. Our cavalry horses are in wretched condition, so had no chance of overtaking them. Marched three miles further and bivouacked in the following order :—



NOTE.—**1**, 38th N. I. (750)—**2**, 43rd N. I. (500)—**3**, wing of Shah's 2nd (300)—**4**, 16th N. I. (750)—**5**, 6-prs. H. A.—**6**, H. M.'s 40th (560)—**7**, Leeson's Horse (500)—**8**, H. A. 6-prs.—**9**, Skinner's Horse (200)—**10**, Persian Prince (150)—**11**, 42nd N. I. (750)—**12**, 9-pr. battery.

While on the line of march we generally moved in column of sub-divisions, thus—

1. Cavalry.
2. Troop Horse Artillery.

3. H.M.'s 40th Foot.
4. 16th Regt. N.I.
5. 38th Regt. N.I.
6. 9-pounder Battery.
7. 42nd Regt. N.I.
8. Troop Horse Artillery.
9. Baggage and Provision Camels.
10. Rear Guard—two companies of N. I., and 100 Cavalry, increased as occasion required.

I was generally in front of the cavalry with the Quarter Master-General, and had always a good view of the enemy when they showed themselves in front of our column of march, and before they were obscured by the dust of our column. Towards sunset a large body of cavalry appeared in front of our encampment, about two miles distant. We all got under arms immediately, but they remained stationary, and moved off when it was getting dark. We all lay beside our men during the night, but there was no alarm except a few shots at the picquets. I robed myself in my poshteen, but the night was so cold and the ground was so hard that I could not sleep during the night. We had marched south-west and about two miles in front of the Urgundab.

MARCH 8.—Marched at 6 a. m. on our way to Killa Toola Khan, the head-quarters of the enemy. Proceeded about four miles, when we observed about 4,000 of the enemy's cavalry passing from the hills in our front towards our left. Halted and formed line of contiguous columns at deploying distance to

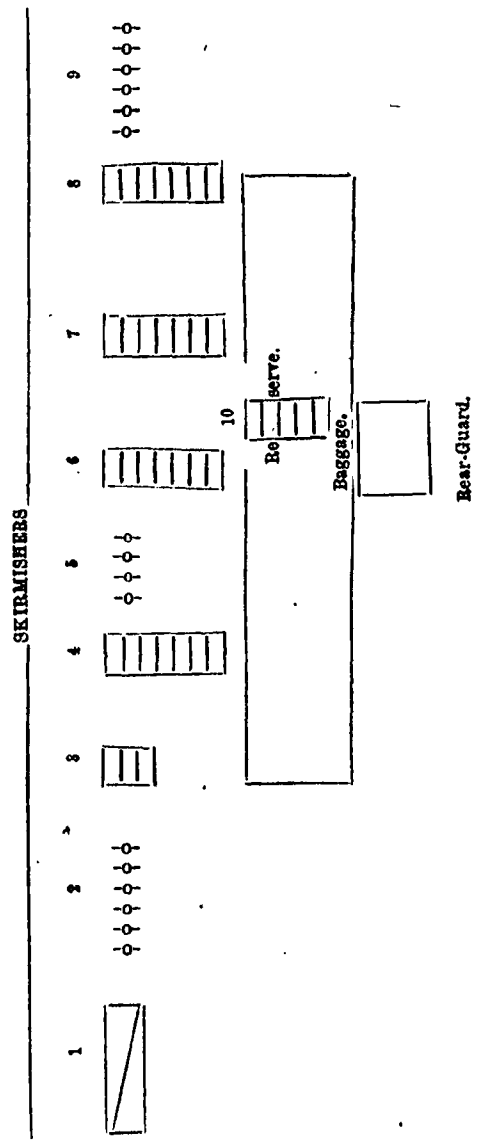
our left. The enemy were distant 1½ miles. Advanced about a mile, the enemy retiring slowly, and deployed into line. Advanced again, the Cavalry and Horse Artillery moving on our right and in advance. The ground was very difficult, being much intersected by deep canals and water cuts. Moved on a mile, the enemy still retiring. Light companies out in skirmishing order in front. Horse Artillery in action to front; fired a dozen round shot, with little effect. Advanced again, the enemy's skirmishers galloping to front and firing long shots at our line. 9-pounder battery opened with round shot. I could see a few knocked over, loose horses galloping about. The enemy quickly carried off their dead. On the right of the line the enemy charged down on the guns, but were driven off by a few rounds of grape. Cavalry ordered to charge. Commanding officer refused, as his horses were weak and the numbers of the enemy far superior. Had he been defeated the enemy might have got possession of the H. A. guns, the infantry being too far distant to afford them immediate support. The General very angry at the disobedience of orders which he had sent three times. It was a bold thing in the Cavalry commanding officer refusing to obey orders of this kind; perhaps he was right. I can hardly acquit him. He certainly would have lost perhaps half his men and endangered the guns, but an order is an order in the field. On the left of the line we never got within reach of the enemy: in fact, the long shots of the 9-pounders frightened them too soon.

They were astonished at finding themselves knocked over at 1,500 or 1,600 yards' distance. The General was injudicious, I think, in using his guns so soon. He ought to have reserved their fire and tried to get as near the enemy as possible, and then do them as much damage as he could. He said his object was to show them that he could kill them when he chose at a distance from which they had no chance of touching us. At last we drove the enemy across the Doree river. We had advanced IN LINE for six miles over canals through villages and all sorts of bad ground, so our order was not very good; we ought to have advanced in column, and not deployed until we were near the enemy. As it was, there was the greatest confusion, which an active enemy might have taken advantage of. Bivouacked close to a village near the river. Village given up to plunder; one Chief of note was killed, and two wounded. A good number of the enemy must have fallen, as I saw the 9-pounder shot go right into the middle of them. The enemy hovered about our camp all day, but at a good distance. Night not so cold: slept well all night, being much fatigued. A few shots at the picquets.

MARCH 9.—Marched at 6 a.m. towards the enemy's head-quarters. At 2nd mile, on rounding the point of a high rocky range of precipitous hills, along the base of which our road lay, we were fired upon from the heights. Light Company H. M.'s 40th ordered up the front; ditto 16th N. I. to the rear. The front was exceedingly steep, and the

40th crowned it with great difficulty. Here they killed 16, the rest escaping by clambering up the rocks like goats to a higher range. A little further on, where the hills declined, were again fired on. Grenadier company 40th soon cleared these, killing ten. All along the range on our left we were fired on from the tops of the rocks, but the distance was too great for the enemy to do damage. The valley we were passing down was about four or five miles broad. Under the opposite hills we observed a party of 200 of the enemy's horse, and the hills were covered with footmen, passing, as we afterwards discovered, on to Kandahar. As we now saw a very large body of about 6,000 cavalry drawn across the valley in our front, we took no notice of those on our right. The enemy's right rested on the range of hills to our left, and their left flank on a large ruined fort or scarped mound. I fully expected they would here give us battle. When within a mile we formed our line of contiguous columns at deploying distance thus:—

[DIAGRAM OF CONTIGUOUS COLUMNS.]



NOTE.—1, Cavalry—2, 1st troop H. A.—3, Shah's 2nd—4, 42nd N. I.—5, Field Battery—6, 38th N. I.—7, 16th N. I.—8, H. M.'s 40th—9, 2nd troop H. A.—10, 43rd N. I.

In this order we steadily advanced, the enemy falling back. A little skirmishing between the enemy's cavalry skirmishers and ours. Advanced thus for a considerable distance, the enemy retiring and keeping out of range, until they crossed the Doree River and entered the great desert. Encamped between two large villages, which we plundered and burned. A few shots during the night.

MARCH 10.—Advanced to what had been the enemy's head-quarters, which we found evacuated. Burned their small fort and some villages. Quarter-masters ordered on to take up ground of encampment on the banks of the river, two miles from the column. While near the river observed a party of cavalry manœuvring to cut us off from the column; obliged to retreat as we had only a guard of six sowars. Meantime the General heard that the greater portion of the enemy were advancing on Kandahar, in which direction we also moved; large bodies of cavalry moving on our left flank, but at a considerable distance. Encamped at 3 p.m. near a village, which we plundered and burned.

MARCH 11.—Marched at 6 a.m. towards Kandahar, distant 25 miles. About 2,000 cavalry followed the rear-guard, where there was a little skirmishing. A six-pounder was sent to the rear, and after a couple of shots the enemy kept further off. At 12 o'clock halted for a couple of hours. Here a note arrived from Kandahar. It mentioned that the city had been attacked and the enemy repulsed. Moved on seven miles further over a heavy, swampy country,

very difficult for guns and camels, a canal or water-cut occurring at every hundred yards. Halted at sunset on damp ground. Biting cold, with high wind. No plundering to be allowed in future.

MARCH 12.—About 8 a.m. some sepoys were observed plundering in a village. The General came out in a great rage, ordered the troops under arms, and flogged three sepoys of the 38th, and one of the 16th N.I., besides a number of camp followers. At noon marched four miles to Kandahar and returned to our old quarters. Thus ended our week's campaign.

ATTACK ON KANDAHAR, MARCH 10.

When we marched out with General Nott on the 7th, Major Lane was left in command of the garrison with the 2nd Regiment N.I. and two and a half regiments Shah's Infantry—very weak. He had four old Russian guns, and two 18-pounders—a very insufficient garrison for a town the walls of which are nearly four miles round and in very bad repair, as are the gates, six in number. On the 10th the enemy was from the walls observed assembling in immense numbers among the villages, gardens, and ruins around the city. They were chiefly footmen. The garrison was on the alert, and as soon as it got dark the enemy was heard advancing to the attack. During the day all the gates had been barricaded by bags of flour piled against them in the inside, and about sunset several persons, apparently villagers, had brought up several

ass-loads of wood to the Herat Gate, and on being told the gate could not be opened they threw down the wood and went off, saying they would return for it in the morning when the gate was open. The *ruse* was successful, the officer on duty not suspecting anything. About 8 p.m., when it was very dark, a simultaneous attack was made on all the gates, on which a heavy fire of matchlocks was kept up, while parties of the enemy rushed forward with wood, balls of cotton steeped in oil, ghee, &c., &c., which were thrown against the gate and set fire to. On the top of the gateway was a gun, from which several rounds of grape were fired with great effect; a heavy and effective fire of musketry also was kept up from the walls and bastions. The Herat Gate, on which the main attack was made, was now in flames. The gun was withdrawn and placed in the street opposite the gateway, a reinforcement was also sent down and drawn up in the street. As the gate burned the flour bags inside took fire, yet when the gate fell the enemy rushed over these through the flames, and eight of the assailants were killed on the inner side of the barrier. Their rush failed; the assailants were driven back with great slaughter and did not renew the attack. All attempts to fire the other gates were unsuccessful; indeed, the attacks on them were partial. A heavy fire was kept up on the enemy as they fell back, and they suffered severely. By their own accounts, brought in afterwards, they had upwards of 1,000 killed in the attack. They mustered about 20,000.

Shahzada Suftur Jung and all the chiefs were present, but kept out of harm's way. The horsemen came up, and tying the heads of the dead together with their waistcloths dragged them off the field, but they were afraid to advance close to the gate to carry off those who had fallen there. And even on the 12th, when we returned, I saw 60 bodies lying close to the foot of the remains of the gate. Altogether it was a most gallant attempt on the part of the enemy, and the garrison bravely did their duty in repelling it. Strange to say, we had but two men injured in the garrison.

MARCH 13.—The enemy has moved across the Urgundab, and passed up to the northward. Almost all the footmen have dispersed, heaping abuse on the prince, the sirdars, and the cavalry in general for not giving them support in the attack. The enemy has still about 10,000 cavalry in the field, but there is no use in our going after them. They would not stand our attack, but would immediately fall back, and we have no means of pursuing them. I forgot to mention that on the 6th, the day before we moved out, all the Afghans, except shopkeepers, had been turned out of the city, which accounts for there having been no rise inside when the attack was made from without.

MARCH 14.—The dead have been buried, and all is quiet and has resumed its former aspect around the town.

MARCH 15.—The 2nd Regiment N. I., Shah's 1st and 5th Regiments, a troop H. A., and 300 cavalry marched with the public camels to forage.

MARCH 20.—The enemy has disappeared; no sign of them for several days.

MARCH 21.—The forage party returned to garrison without having procured much grain.

MARCH 23.—The enemy reported to have again assembled in considerable numbers at Sinjeree, on the other side of the Urgundab. Negotiations going on for the purpose of withdrawing Shahzada Suftur Jung from the rebels. He has been offered personal safety if he will come into Kandahar. Taj Mahomed wrote to the Political Agent to say if he would send him a lakh of rupees he would dismiss all the Janbaz cavalry or take them up to Cabul. Fortunately Major Rawlinson is now placed under the authority of General Nott, and was therefore obliged to apply to the General for permission to disburse this sum. The General, of course, put his veto at once on any payment of the sort, yet so infatuated is the Political Agent that he urged the General most strongly to consent, without effect. Had this money been paid to these rascals it would have made them stronger than ever, and instead of going to Cabul or dispersing we should have had their numbers doubled.

MARCH 24.—Yesterday morning a portion of the enemy's camp could be seen from the new barracks. They are on the right bank of the Urgundab. All the water has been turned off from the canals which supply the city. Towards evening I rode out with Olpherts to look at the enemy's camp. As we were going up the hill, all the people on the top came

rushing down exclaiming that the enemy was advancing and 500 of their cavalry close at hand. I saw a considerable cloud of dust about a mile distant, rode back to the barracks, where all were in preparation for an attack, guns run out, cavalry mounted, &c., &c. Thinking my regiment would be under arms in the city, galloped in, expecting every moment to hear the 9-pounders open their fire. However, all remained quiet during the night. It was discovered that the alarm was occasioned by a party of the enemy's cavalry, who came and plundered a village within a mile of the barracks. Shahzada Suftur Jung has written in to say if he is furnished with a safeguard and a guarantee of protection, and allowed to go about as usual on his parole of good behaviour, he will come into Kandahar. What answer has been returned I know not. Yesterday the Shah's 5th Regiment of Infantry refused to take their pay, and so far mutinied as to prevent a man from being flogged on the parade. This is very bad. I fear these Shah's regiments are not to be trusted, and that they may yet give us much trouble.

MARCH 25.—This morning the 16th and 38th Regiments N.I., the Shah's 2nd Regiment, a troop H.A., and 400 cavalry marched out with the camels to procure forage along the banks of the Urgundab, towards the north. [Patterson, who was so severely wounded on the 27th December, when Golding was killed by the Janbaz, had his leg amputated two days ago. I suspect the operation has been delayed too long.]

MARCH 26.—Yesterday morning the above detachment, under command of Colonel Wymer, on arriving at Babawullee, was attacked by about 4,000 of the enemy's cavalry, who had crossed the Urgundab. They were partially engaged from eleven o'clock by the enemy, who generally kept their main bodies well out of shot, throwing forward their skirmishers. The horse surrounded Wymer on all sides, making fruitless attempts on the baggage and camels. Several charges were made by our cavalry, who were always repulsed, and retired behind the infantry when the enemy fell back. Lieut. Chamberlain charged with sixty sowars, and found himself with eight men in the middle of a large body of horse. He extricated himself most miraculously, receiving two wounds and breaking his sword. When he retired the enemy charged down on the Light Company 38th, which was detached, and from which they received a volley at fifty yards, which emptied many saddles, and sent the rest to the right-about: some of the enemy fell so close to the company that the men stepped from the ranks and bayoneted them as they fell. At one o'clock a report came in to the General from Wymer, reporting that he was surrounded by the enemy, but not requiring assistance. However, the General immediately went out himself, taking Her Majesty's 40th, the 2nd N.I., the Shah's 5th Regiment, Blood's 9-pounder Battery, and the remainder of the cavalry. As soon as the reinforcement showed themselves the enemy commenced their retreat across the river,

which was very deep, in which they suffered a little from the guns, but the infantry could not come up with them. An attempt was made to follow across the river, but it was not fordable for infantry. The General returned with his reinforcement about 8 p.m., leaving Wymer at Babawullee. During the day we had three sowars and one sepoy killed, and about twenty-five wounded, some severely. The enemy lost between two and three hundred killed and wounded. Poor Patterson died this morning at nine o'clock.

March 27.—Early yesterday morning the General again went out with the same troops, but the enemy had not attempted to recross the river. During the night they had sent off most of their baggage. A strong rear-guard of about 1,500 horse was on the ground when our troops arrived, but they went off on the latter approaching the river. The enemy have divided, part gone towards Teereen and part up the right bank of the river to Dahla, twenty-five miles off. No use in attempting to follow them with infantry, and our cavalry is not half so good as that of the enemy, who hold them in utter contempt. The troops which went out with the General returned in the evening, leaving Wymer to forage up the Babawullee Valley.

March 28.—The 42nd Regiment and 150 sowars marched this morning to reinforce Colonel Wymer's detachment in the Urgundab Valley, to enable him to reconstruct the embankment, which had been broken down by the enemy when they turned the

water from the city canals. We joined the Colonel's camp at noon, and found the enemy had retired a long way up the right bank of the river, and were in some measure dispersed. Very heavy rain during the past night; a good deal also fell during our march out. To our surprise an order came out in the evening for the whole detachment to return to Kandahar, as the villagers would mend the broken bund.

MARCH 29.—Exceedingly heavy rain during the night; tents, beds, &c., soaked through. Marched at 6 a.m., and returned into garrison at noon, Colonel Wymer's original detachment encamping to the north-east of the city.

APRIL 13.—The 42nd, the 43rd, and Shah's 1st Regiment marched out with the camels to graze; went down to the Doree River, along the banks of which there is good forage. The desert comes down to the left bank of the river.

APRIL 20.—Returned to garrison, having had no adventures nor seen anything of the enemy during our trip.

APRIL 24.—Colonel Wymer marched this morning with the following troops to meet at the Kojuck Pass a brigade of Bombay troops coming up from Quetta with treasure, stores, &c., and to assist in the pass, should it be found occupied or defended by the enemy:—the 2nd Troop Shah's Horse Artillery, 100 Skinner's Horse, 400 1st Shah's Cavalry, and the 2nd, 16th, and 38th Regiments N.I., Heard news of the Shah having been murdered at Cabul.

He had written to General Sale at Jellalabad to say he was coming down with all the troops he could collect to meet General Pollock's force there, and to return with him to take vengeance on his rebellious subjects. This letter was intercepted by the rebels and carried to Mahomed Akbar, Dost Mahomed's son, who immediately told off fifty of his men to murder Shah Soojah. These took up a position and shot the Shah as he was passing from the Bala Hissar to his camp.

MAY 2.—Three men of Her Majesty's 40th, who had wandered to some distance from their barracks, were murdered by a small party of the enemy's horse, who happened to be prowling about. The villagers brought in their headless trunks. Made a very fair racket court against the wall of our mess house, where we play every evening, using bats in place of rackets. It is rather severe exercise for those long unaccustomed to anything of the kind, and the weather is becoming rather hot. General Nott has been invested by Government with supreme political powers as well as chief command of all the troops in Lower Afghanistan and in Upper and Lower Sind as far as the sea. General Pollock is to command in Upper Afghanistan as far as Ghuzni.

MAY 6.—Heard to-day of General England's brigade of Bombay troops having on the 2nd effected a junction with Colonel Wymer's detachment in the Kojuck Pass; but slight opposition was offered by the enemy, and Wymer had only one man killed

and two wounded in crowning the heights. A royal salute fired to-day in honour of the arrival of General Pollock's force at Jellalabad.

MAY 10.—General England arrived this morning with the following troops, also Colonel Wymer's brigade :—the troop Horse Artillery (Europeans), three troops 3rd Bombay Cavalry, 100 Poona Horse, H. M.'s 41st Regiment, 25th Regiment Bombay N. I., and a Light Battalion.

MAY 11.—The following troops in orders to march to-morrow morning, for some unknown purpose—supposed to be to drive Suftur Jung and the rebels from their position on the other side of the Urgundab:—1st troop Shah's Horse Artillery, 200 Skinner's Horse, seven troops Christie's Horse, 42nd, 43rd, and Shah's 5th Infantry.

MAY 16.—During the past week we crossed the Urgundab—very deep and rapid—and marched about thirty miles down the right bank, the enemy retiring before us. Got sight of them only on one occasion, when we saw about 200 sowars of their rear-guard a few miles in advance of us. These galloped off as soon as they saw us, and could not be overtaken. Returned to garrison.

MAY 18.—Colonel Wymer marched this morning towards Khelat-i-Ghilzai with the following troops : troop Bombay European Horse Artillery, Blood's Battery Bombay 9-pounders, three troops 3rd Bombay Cavalry, four Resallahs Christie's Horse, 200 Skinner's Horse, Her Majesty's 40th Foot, 2nd, 16th, and 38th Regts. N. I. He is going for the

relief of Khelat-i-Ghilzai, which some 5,000 Ghilzais have invested. The 42nd and 43rd Regiments N.I., with four guns Horse Artillery and 200 Cavalry, are under orders to follow as soon as carriage for supplies can be procured.

MAY 23.—The above convoy escort went into camp to the east of the city.

MAY 25.—About 10 a.m. a report came to the General that the enemy were about to attack the cantonment, in which was one Shah's regiment as a safeguard. The 42nd and 43rd with four guns and a few cavalry went out to drive them off. On our approach they retired across the Babawullee Ghaut. The Queen's 41st also came out, but as the enemy had retired long before, we, after waiting some time, returned to camp. In the evening the Shah's regiment was withdrawn from the cantonment barracks into the town.

MAY 26.—Our camels were attacked to-day when out at graze by a large party of sowars; a little skirmishing took place with the grazing guard. Our cavalry and two companies 42nd went off as a reinforcement, when the enemy retired, having killed one camelman and carried off two camels.

MAY 27.—Early in the morning the 42nd, 43rd, some cavalry, and four guns went out to reconnoitre the enemy, who were said to have crossed the Urgundab and to be in the Babawullee Valley. The 42nd crossed the ghaut, in which were a few videttes, who retired before us. The 43rd and guns went round the hill, met in the valley, but could not

see more than a couple of hundred of the enemy's cavalry, who re-crossed the river before us. Returned to camp about 11 a.m. Despatch from Khelat-i-Ghilzai. 6,000 Ghilzais attacked the fort by night, renewing their attempts till morning, the garrison (Shah's 3rd Regiment, 3rd Company 43rd N. I., and half-company European Artillery with two 18-pounders) repulsing every attack. The grape from the 18-pounders swept the enemy from the plain, and the musketry thinned them as they advanced. The enemy is supposed to have lost more than 1,000 in killed and wounded; the loss of the garrison was very trifling. There is a report that the Ghilzai prisoners, in number about thirty, rose on their guard in the fort and were bayoneted to a man.

MAY 28.—Reports of Akhtur Khan, the Zamindawur Chief, having joined the rebels with 5,000 men, and that the whole will cross the river to-morrow, and either fight in the plain or attack the town. In our camp all the grain bags were formed into a square, and the camp made as compact as possible. These movements of the enemy have stopped our progress.

MAY 29.—About 10-30 a.m. the 42nd and 43rd were suddenly ordered under arms, as the enemy was moving down towards the empty cantonments. A great number of our men were cooking in the town and out with the camels at graze, so that the two regiments did not muster more than 750 bayonets. We had with us four 6-pounders and about 150 cavalry, the whole under Brigadier Stacy. We marched out and took up a position in front of the

barracks, and having a range of hills on our left and a large canal on our right, the guns in centre, and the cavalry in rear of centre. Went up on the hill with the Brigadier to reconnoitre, when about 3,000 cavalry and 5,000 footmen met our view, advancing towards us, distant about two miles. They had a formidable appearance, and looked as if they could have swallowed our handful of men on the plain, who, being in quarter-distance column, covered very little ground. Seeing the enemy's numbers so far exceeded what we were to expect, the Brigadier ordered me to gallop into the city and report to the General, while he drew back his force a quarter of a mile to a better position, with the left resting on the barracks. I went as fast as I could and reported. The General ordered me to take out H. M.'s 41st Regiment as quickly as possiale. Eight more guns were also ordered out, and I had orders for Brigadier Stacy not to advance till further notice. As soon as I had put the 41st on the right road, I galloped off as hard as I could to see what the Brigadier was about, as I heard firing. When I arrived I found the enemy in possession of the range of hills our people had quitted, just out of musket range. About 3,000 horse and foot were on a much higher range to the right, a mile distant in front of the Babawullee Pass, which they held and fortified with a strong, thick breastwork of large stones; the rest of the force was in rear of some gardens and villages in our front. When I came up I found a good deal of desultory firing on

both sides; the guns were taking long shots, and the enemy's skirmishers galloping in front of the hills and firing into our columns. I tried to bring down some of these rascals with my double-barrelled gun, but could not hit them as they are always on the move. When the 41st and guns came up, Brigadier Stacy had still no orders to advance to the attack, and after waiting some time I volunteered again to gallop in to the General to get permission. By this time it was near one o'clock and the sun as hot as fire—I suppose 130° at least. I took a fresh horse, as I fully expected to have to run the gauntlet through part of the enemy's cavalry, who were gradually drawing round our right flank and getting between us and the city. I was on a very swift horse of Brigadier Stacy's, and just as I was preparing for a dash past a party of cavalry, half-way to the town, I looked to the right and saw the General himself with his staff and escort coming out by another road, so I went across to him and reported I was sent on to get all ready for an advance. As soon as the General came up the light companies of H. M.'s 41st, the 42nd, and 43rd N. I. were ordered to clear the range of hills in front and drive back the enemy. A company went in support of each light company, while the three quarter-distance columns advanced a little to the right. The light companies commenced firing a great deal too soon, and I was ordered on to stop it, which I did with great difficulty, the balls from the enemy on the hill hopping about me like hail.

The companies then went on steadily and cleared the hills in capital style, bayoneting all who stood before them. Lieutenant Mainwaring, who commanded the 42nd Light Company, was wounded twice, but succeeded in capturing a large and handsome red standard. The sepoys behaved gallantly, and at the top of the hill the Europeans came up and shook hands with them, saying, "You're the boys to fight with ; we'll go anywhere with you." We advanced with the General and soon cleared the large hill in our front, which was the key of the enemy's position. As soon as this was taken the enemy broke and fled in the greatest confusion. Chamberlain* with his small party of cavalry cut in among them and did great execution ; he had his horse shot, and was wounded severely in the thigh. The 41st and 42nd now advanced to storm the passes into the Babawullee Valley, the 41st to take the right, 42nd the left, which was very narrow, and across it was a high, strong breastwork. We went at it very steadily, and when about half-way up the hill the guns from below fired a couple of shells over our heads right into the crowd behind the breastwork. These did great execution, and we had little or no difficulty in clearing the pass. When we got over we saw the enemy in full flight to the river, some already across. The heat had been so dreadful that we could hardly stand, so we were obliged to take the men down to a canal to drink. Here we got the

* Now Sir Neville Chamberlain, Commander-in-Chief, Madras.

order to return. We got back before sunset, struck our camp, and came into garrison. We were nine hours exposed to a fearfully hot sun, and I felt pretty well knocked up. We had not a man killed in the field ; fifty-seven wounded and two officers. The enemy are supposed to have had 300 killed and 700 or 800 wounded.

MAY 30.—At 2 a.m. the 42nd, 43rd, Shah's 5th, with a troop H.A. and 200 cavalry, again marched out to see what the enemy were about. We arrived in the Babawullee Valley at daylight, and found the enemy had bivouacked on the other side of the river, but the main body was already in full retreat on the Durrawut road, leaving a rear-guard of about a thousand horsemen to cover the retreat. We manœuvred about the gardens, &c., for a long time trying to get at these fellows, but they were too cunning for us, and about ten o'clock went off at a gallop. We returned to the garrison completely done up with heat and fatigue. Lay down as soon as I got home, and slept till dinner time. My best horse lame from having cast a shoe in yesterday's work.

JUNE 1.—A dâk going out; employed all day writing to Colonel Young and Hammersley.

JUNE 2.—Four guns, 120 Cavalry, 42nd Regiment N. I., and the Shah's 5th and 2nd Regiments Infantry moved into camp to escort a large quantity of grain to Killa Abdoola. We have in camp 2,000 camels and 3,000 asses.

JUNE 3.—Marched to Sharandan, six miles.

JUNE 4.—To Deh Hajee. All villages *en route* deserted.

JUNE 10.—Crossed the Kojuck Pass without opposition. Only one man of the Shah's 5th killed.

JUNE 12.—Reached Killa Abdoola.

JUNE 14.—The Bombay 12th Regiment arrived with a convoy of 3,000 camels and 700 bullocks, which we took charge of.

JUNE 17.—Marched with the convoy on our return.

JUNE 18.—Guns, cavalry, and 42nd went over to Chummun, the Shah's regiment in the pass protecting the convoy while crossing.

JUNE 19.—The whole of the convoy across the pass. Camels attacked at graze. One Atchukzai's head brought in.

JUNE 20.—Marched to Colzai, twenty-four miles; beautiful moonlight night.

JUNE 27.—Arrived at Kandahar and marched into garrison to our old quarters.

JUNE 29.—Colonel Wymer's detachment, which had been out in the district destroying forts, returned to garrison.

JULY.—During the month of July everything remained quiet at Kandahar. Towards the end of the month we were made aware that we were to return to India, and not by the Quetta route; but this was the extent of our information.

AUGUST 7.—All the troops for several days previous had been gradually withdrawn from the city of Kandahar, and on the evening of this day the

42nd and 43rd, the last regiments left, marched into camp, the gate-guards being withdrawn at sunset, and the town left in the hands of Prince Suftur Jung. General England, who was to command the Bombay and other troops proceeding viâ Quetta, had his camp pitched separate from ours under General Nott, whose force now consists of the following troops :—

ARTILLERY—commanded by Major Sotheby.

	Guns.	
1 Troop Bombay Horse Artillery, Capt. Leslie ...	6	6-prs.
1 Troop late Shah's Horse Arty., Capt. Anderson.	6	6-prs.
9-pounder Battery (Bombay), Capt. Blood	6	9-prs.
18-pounder Battery, Lieut. Cornish	4	18-prs.
Total.....	22	

CAVALRY—Capt. Delamain.

3rd Bombay Light Cavalry, Capt. Delamain	360
3 Resallahs 1st Irregular Cavalry, Capt. Haldane	250
Christie's Horse, Capt. Christie	450
Total.....	1,060

1ST BRIGADE—Brigadier Wymer; Brigade Major, Capt. Scott.

H.M.'s 40th Foot, Major Hibbert; Rank and File.....	650
16th Regt. N.I., Col. MacLaren	750
38th Regt. N.I., Capt. Burney	760
Late Shah's 3rd Regt. N.I., Capt. Craigie	560
Total.....	2,720

2ND BRIGADE—Brigadier Stacy; Brigade Major, Capt. Dixon.

H.M.'s 41st Foot, Major Browne	600
2nd Regt. N.I., Col. Lane	750
42nd Regt. N.I., Major Clarkson	750
43rd Regt. N.I., Major Nash	750
Total...	2,850
	2,720
	1,060
Grand Total...	6,630

Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General, Captain Polwhele.
Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master-General, Lieut. Tytler.
Deputy Assistant Commissaries-General, Captains Bisset, Milne, and Nelson.
Engineers, Major Sanders and Lieuts. North and Studdart.
Baggage Master, Lieut. Tytler.
Padre, Rev. Mr. Allen.
Post Master and in charge of Treasure Chest, Capt. Ripley.
Political Agents, Majors Leech and Rawlinson.
Deputy Judge Advocate-General, Capt. Kay.
European Officers in camp, 170.

Marched this morning towards Khelat-i-Ghilzai.

AUGUST 17.—Arrived at Khelat-i-Ghilzai. The place is now a ruin, having been destroyed when our garrison was withdrawn in May last.

AUGUST 19.—Sir-i-Asp. 20, Nowruk. 21, Tazur, where we found the bones of the animals we lost in November last whitening the plain.

AUGUST 22.—Sir-i-Tazu, about six miles.

AUGUST 23.—Chusma Shadu, eleven miles of good road.

AUGUST 24.—Halted.

AUGUST 25.—Chusma Punguck, good road, six miles; several villages under the hills to the west.

AUGUST 26.—Ghojan, ten miles; a number of villages under the west hills; good road and water. High hill to left of camp. Heard of Shumshoodeen, the Governor of Ghuznee, being with 2 guns and 5,000 men at Mookoor.

AUGUST 27.—Mookoor, twelve miles; camp under a range of high hills, near some springs, the source of the Turnuk River. A great number of small forts around, all deserted. When the Quarter-Masters arrived on the ground a strong picquet of the enemy were just moving off.

AUGUST 28.—Karez Uzbegee, twelve miles. Soon after leaving Mookoor the rear-guard was attacked by about 700 horse and footmen. The Irregular Cavalry was sent after them, and drove them up into the hills, killing about sixty. The cavalry had five killed and several wounded, among them Lieut. Chamberlain in the hand. About twelve o'clock a report came in of all the grass-cutters having been cut up by a party of the enemy. Captain Delamain, without the General's knowledge, ordered out the whole of the cavalry, who were decoyed by a small party round a range of hills five miles from camp, where they were met by 5,000 or 6,000 of the enemy. Our cavalry charged them up a rising ground, but were received by so hot a fire that they were driven back in confusion, and were in turn charged by the enemy, and completely routed,

every man galloping for his life. About fifty of our cavalry were killed, also Captains Bury and Reeves, of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry; Captain Ravenscroft badly shot in the body; Lieutenant Mackenzie, the bone of the arm shattered; and Captain Malet shot in the face. As soon as the General heard of the affair he sent out all the light companies with a troop of horse artillery, and on these the cavalry reformed. The 40th Queen's and 38th Native Infantry, together with the whole of the 2nd Brigade, followed. The fort in which the grass-cutters were murdered was occupied by the enemy. This we surrounded, blew open the gate, and sent in the light companies, who killed about fifty men. While we were at the fort a troop of artillery with some cavalry and a regiment of N.I. were sent to the place where the cavalry had been repulsed, to recover the bodies of the killed. They brought back about twenty, horribly mutilated. Of Reeves nothing was found but the trunk—the head, legs, and arms being cut off close to the body. Bury's head was cut off, and the legs and arms at the knee and elbow joints. This has been a horrible affair, and all arises from people acting without orders. The General in a dreadful rage about it, and has ordered a court of inquiry to investigate the matter. The enemy all dispersed before we could get near them.

AUGUST 29.—Marched about two miles to Oba, as there was bad forage at Uzbegee. Large bodies of the enemy now visible on a range of high hills to

the east. A wing of the 2nd N.I. with two guns and some cavalry have gone out to procure forage. A large detachment of the enemy passed down to attack the forage party, but were deterred by the guns, which they found ready to open on them. They went off about three o'clock to their encampment, and our party returned safely to camp. The fort they went to for forage was that taken by us the day before, and the sights inside were not pleasant. There were about 100 dead bodies lying about; six or eight children were found roasted to a cinder; they had been concealed under heaps of chaff which had been burned. One woman was the only live thing in the fort. She was sitting the picture of despair with her father, brothers, husband, and children lying dead around her. She had dragged all their bodies to one spot, and seated herself in the midst.

AUGUST 30.—Jemarat, ten miles; marched at daylight; heard the enemy's drums beating as they marched parallel with our advance on the other side of a low range of hills. Flanking parties of the enemy's cavalry rode along the crest of the ridge about half a mile distant. When we reached our encamping-ground we found that the enemy occupied a strong little fort on our flank, about 500 yards from camp. They fired a few shots into camp, but soon ceased. We took no notice of them until all our men had eaten their dinner. About three p.m. the 18-pounders with three regiments of N.I. and some cavalry and light guns

went out to attack the fort. There was great delay in crossing the guns over a deep ravine, and the batteries did not open till half-past four. The practice was very bad, and after half an hour nothing like a breach was effected. Meantime the enemy collected in great numbers on the surrounding heights, and opened a fire of two guns on our battery. H.M.'s 40th and 41st Regiments and 42nd N.I. were ordered out to reinforce, and before our arrival on the field a general engagement had commenced, the enemy occupying the range of hills and numbering about 5,000 cavalry and 4,000 infantry. As the 42nd arrived on the ground a large party of the enemy, who far outflanked us, was observed stealing up a large ravine leading to our camp, and passing under fire of the fort we had first attacked, for the purpose of making an attack on the camp. Before this the General was forced to abandon his attack on the fort and turn his attention to the enemy outside. We were sent off to take possession of the ravine to prevent an attack on camp. Our light and grenadier companies soon drove this party of the enemy back on their main body, and we retained possession of the ravine until the return of the General to camp after dark. While taking up our position we were under fire of the fort; it was heavy enough, but ill directed, almost all the balls going over our heads. The action was like all others we have had—the enemy would not come before our infantry, our skirmishers only ever came up with them. At last they broke and fled

in great confusion, abandoning one of their guns, which broke down. Captain Christie with his regiment of cavalry captured the other gun, killing about fifty gunners and others. They had pursued it for a long way, and could not overtake it till Lieutenant Chamberlain, of the Cavalry, galloped in front and with his sword cut one of the traces. Christie's cavalry, supported by some light companies, went on to the camp of Shumshoodeen, the Ghazee leader. They destroyed the tents and blew up an immense quantity of gun and musket ammunition. This party did not return to camp until nine o'clock. As there were but few men in the fort, the General did not like to harass the troops by investing it.

AUGUST 30.—As we expected, the fort was evacuated during the night. The enemy are said to have lost about 200 in yesterday's engagement. They would have lost four times the number, but it was getting dark before the action had well commenced, and the pursuit could not be continued effectually. However, the enemy is completely broken for the present; not a man is to be seen to-day. We have halted to-day and burst the two captured guns.

SEPTEMBER 1.—Chupperkhana, ten miles. The valley studded with hundreds of small forts.

SEPTEMBER 2.—Mushukee, eleven miles. Numerous forts, but all deserted.

SEPTEMBER 3.—Nanee, twelve miles. A picquet of the enemy in sight soon after starting. These, in number about 150, moved along a range of hills

to our left, keeping a little in front of the advance, and occasionally approaching within 400 yards. All were well mounted and well dressed.

SEPTEMBER 4.—Advanced to within four miles of Ghuznee, the enemy's out-picquets observing us all the march, and firing a few shots at us who were in advance. Our camp was pitched south of the fort, on the opposite side were about 6,000 of the enemy's cavalry, about six miles distant. The fort appeared well filled with people, who displayed several flags. Remained quiet during the day, laying in forage, &c., from a large deserted fort close to camp.

SEPTEMBER 5.—A great deal of firing last night into our camp; not much damage done. Marched at sunrise for a position east of the fort and about two and a quarter miles from the walls. As we advanced great numbers of horsemen occupied the large gardens under the walls of the fort, and from 6,000 to 8,000 horse and foot the range of hills to the north. When near our encamping-ground the 16th Regiment N. I. was sent on with the Engineer Officers to reconnoitre the fort, particularly the north-east face and Cabul Gate. This was discovered to be built up, and the deep and wide ditch filled with water. While thus employed the 16th were attacked by a large body of cavalry, but they got pretty good cover behind some old walls until some guns and cavalry came up, and the enemy drew back to the hills. Meantime we had got all the flags down for the camp, and were ready to fall

in with the column when it came up. A couple of regiments and some guns were left to take care of the camp, while the rest of the force advanced against the heights covered by the enemy, part of their cavalry occupying the lower slope; on the summit were a couple of guns. The action commenced by our light companies and guns driving the enemy from the lower slopes, and in less than half an hour we all stood on the top of the range. The enemy scattered in all directions, the footmen getting into the fort at the west gate, and the horse breaking up into small parties on the south-west side. The troops were now recalled to camp, the 16th, 42nd, and a couple of guns being ordered to retain possession of the heights from which we had driven the enemy; our position was within 1,000 yards of the north face. The enemy soon got a couple of guns into one of the bastions to bear on us. The first shot went close over our heads, doing no damage, and before another could be fired we had got the regiments under cover of a rising ground; all the succeeding shots either lodged in this or went over our heads. Just as all the tents in camp were pitched we on the heights heard a tremendous report and rushing through the air, and saw a shot strike the ground close to camp. This we knew was "Zubr Jung," a famous brass 64-pounder, which was mounted on a rampart under the citadel. In about a quarter of an hour we saw another shot lodge right in the middle of the camp: all the tents were struck as quickly as possible, and

the camp moved a mile further off, but before this could be done six shots were sent into our camp : strange to say, not a man was killed, only a few camels—one shot went through four. Towards evening we on the hill got our two six-pounders exchanged for nines, and getting one of them to bear on the rampart, a few rounds knocked off part of the parapet and dismounted one of the guns they had been firing at us all day. After sunset we placed our picquets, told off working parties, and made all preparations for maintaining our position, and for throwing up a breastwork in the spot selected for the breaching battery of 18-pounders. We had a bitterly cold night on the hill, the wind, or rather gale, covering us with dirt and rendering it impossible to see a yard before us. We worked hard in detachments of 160 men, and by morning had a very fair breastwork thrown up. The wind was so high and the night so dark we could not tell what was going on in the town.

SEPTEMBER 6.—At daylight we began to suspect that the town and fort were evacuated, and on reconnoitring found this to be the case ; not a horseman was to be seen in the plain, and the town was empty. A regiment, the 16th, was sent in to take possession, and I went with them. The town was very ruinous inside, most of the houses being roofless, the Afghans during the winter, when, in possession of the town, having taken the timber for firewood. The walls of the town, the gates and citadel were in excellent repair. The officers of the

27th N.I., ten in number, had been sent off to Cabul a week previous to our arrival. They had been confined in a small room in the citadel, on the walls of which they had written a good deal in pencil, but the greater part was effaced. Enough was left to show that they had been most cruelly treated, half-starved and clothed, and insulted in every way. Colonel Palmer had been tortured severely. The large gun which had fired into our camp yesterday was of brass, about ten feet long, with a bore of nearly nine inches. Got back to camp at noon, quite done up.

SEPTEMBER 7.—Sappers and Miners employed in mining the towers of the citadel and some of the town, and the Artillery officers to-day burst the large gun.

SEPTEMBER 8.—Burst the other guns, and in the evening the mines were fired. The destruction of the citadel is complete, but they had not sufficient powder to damage the walls of the town as much as could be wished. My old bay Arab died: he was a faithful servant.

SEPTEMBER 9.—Marched this morning about three miles to the east side of the village of Roza and encamped on the Cabul road. During the past week a great number of the 27th sepoys have come into camp, having made their escape from slavery. Many of them appear to have been pretty well treated, others were hard worked and ill fed and are miserable-looking objects. A party was to-day sent to take possession of the sandalwood gates of

the tomb of Sultan Mahmoud, which was close to camp. These gates, which are entirely made of richly carved sandalwood, were carried off some eight or nine hundred years ago by the Afghans from the famous Hindoo temple of Somnath in Guzerat. Taking these away with us will be the greatest blow we could inflict on the pride of the Afghan nation.

SEPTEMBER 10.—Marched ten miles to Shushgao, and encamped near a number of small deserted forts.

SEPTEMBER 11.—Twelve miles to some forts beyond Huft Asseya, road stony and undulating, numerous streams of water and small forts through the valley.

SEPTEMBER 12.—Ten miles to Sydabad, over a stony road, and encamped close to the fort, where Captain Woodburn and a detachment of 150 men were cut to pieces in October last. A great number of small forts in the vicinity, but all were deserted. In the evening destroyed the principal fort by blowing up a bastion and burning the rest. Two men of H.M.'s 41st were murdered at a village near camp. During the night a heavy fire was kept up in our camp from the distant hills; two men of H.M.'s 40th wounded.

SEPTEMBER 13.—Ten miles to Shikhabad; crossed the Logur river. The road is narrow and bad. The enemy appeared in considerable numbers on a range of hills to our right, and annoyed our rear-guard a good deal. We had a few men badly wounded. Towards evening the enemy collected in large num-

bers. Troops sent to drive them off, but they merely retired further into the mountains. The picquets were strengthened by a couple of guns each, and every precaution taken; but throughout the night a heavy fire was kept up round our camp, so that no one could sleep. The enemy attacked our left flank picquet in force, and were only stopped by a couple of rounds of grape. It was said a subadar of the 27th Regiment, which was in Ghuznee, led them on. We had a few men killed and wounded.

SEPTEMBER 14.—The enemy, both horse and foot, led by Shumshoodeen, late Governor of Ghuznee, were observed in our front, but they retired till we came near the pass leading into the Mydan Valley. Here they drew up on the hills. We pitched our camp on the right of the road, and the light companies were sent up to clear some steep hills on which the enemy were posted. This they did in very gallant style, having ten killed, and Lieut. Eager, H.M.'s 40th, and a good many men, wounded. The enemy kept up a ceaseless fire on our camp all day, and towards evening they collected in large numbers. Four regiments went out and dispersed them on one side of camp, while a fire from the 18-pounders of shrapnel and round shot did the same on the other. When it got dark they again assembled and opened fire on our front. When a large body had got together a charge of grape was sent among them from the 18-pounders, which so astonished them that they left us quiet for the remainder of the night.

SEPTEMBER 15.—Five miles to Mydan is a beauti-

ful fertile valley, well wooded, with a river running through the middle. The valley is studded with numerous small forts. At starting we were annoyed by a fire of matchlocks from the enemy, who occupied in considerable force the hills to our right. The artillery opened on them, and after a good deal of firing drove them off to a more distant and higher range of hills. After the column had passed, the enemy again came down from the heights and attacked the rear guard, which consisted of 400 of the 43rd, two companies 42nd, two 9-pounders, and 200 cavalry. One of the 9-pounders broke down, the axletree snapping from the gun being too much elevated. The rear-guard was forced to remain with the disabled gun, and was boldly attacked by about 3,000 of the enemy, reinforced by Sirdar Ameenoollah with 500 horse. A great number of the enemy were killed, but they continued their attack on the rear-guard until it was reinforced by two guns and the 42nd Regiment, when they drew off. We had an officer and twenty men wounded, some mortally. After getting into the Mydan Valley the light companies drove the enemy from the hills on the right, but not until they had wounded five men who were in advance with the Quarter-Masters. We occupied the heights during the night and had no firing in camp—the only quiet sleep we have had for a week. We burned most of the forts in the valley.

SEPTEMBER 16.—Ten miles to Urgundu. The enemy did not show themselves to-day. They must have had enough of it yesterday.

SEPTEMBER 17.—Eight miles to Killa Sooltan Jan, six miles south of Cabul.

SEPTEMBER 18.—Halted. General Pollock, whose force consists of about 5,000 men and is encamped about ten miles off on the north side of the city, came into camp to visit General Nott. The two Generals will not get on well together, as ours disapproves altogether of the policy adopted by Pollock, who is the senior. Prince Futteh Sing has seated himself on the throne, and is countenanced, if not supported, by General Pollock. Our 2nd Regiment N.I. went into the Bala Hissar in the evening.

SEPTEMBER 19.—General Sale with a small force has gone out towards Bamian to meet the prisoners, who, it is hoped, are on their way in here, Sir R. Shakespear having gone off on the 17th with 700 Kuzzilbash horse to the fort where they were. Near Bamian the keeper offered to give them up for a *consideration*. There is great fear of their being intercepted by Akbar Khan, who is in Kohistan endeavouring to raise the tribes against us.

SEPTEMBER 20.—General Sale has arrived with the prisoners at Urgundu.

SEPTEMBER 21.—Moved our camp three miles nearer the city of Cabul. The whole of the prisoners have arrived in camp except Captain Bygrave, who is still with Mahomed Akbar in Kohistan. The prisoners bribed their keeper, promising 20,000 rupees down and a pension of 1,000 rupees a month for life. All are looking well. There were

eight ladies, about thirty officers, and sixty soldiers. A royal salute was fired by General Pollock when they arrived in his camp. Colonel Palmer, who commanded at Ghuznee, and who is an old friend, is staying with me.

SEPTEMBER 23.—Paid a visit to General Pollock's camp, ten miles off, and afterwards went to see a few of the sights in the town. It is a wretched place, not to be compared to Kandahar. The city is almost deserted.

SEPTEMBER 24 and 25.—Employed laying in provisions.

SEPTEMBER 26.—This morning marched about four miles north of the city to join a force under General Mackaskill, to proceed into the Kohistan for the purpose of dispersing some people collected by Akbar Khan, and of destroying some forts, particularly Charekar, where the Shah's 4th or Goorkha Regiment was cut to pieces in November last. Passed the cantonments, every house a ruin, and every tree and shrub destroyed. It was a melancholy and humiliating sight. General Mackaskill's force consists of the Mountain Train, small 3-pounders, two squadrons H.M.'s 3rd Dragoons, two squadrons 1st Regiment Light Cavalry, H. M.'s 9th Foot, the 26th Regiment N.I., and some Sappers. Our force under Brigadier Stacy consists of Blood's 9-pounder Battery, two 18-pounders, Christie's Horse, H. M.'s 41st Foot, and the 42nd and 43rd Regiments N.I. Heavy rain last night; the high hills around are covered with snow.

SEPTEMBER 27.—Marched ten miles to Zinucoo. Road very bad with numerous difficult ravines. Did not arrive in camp until very late. Breakfasted at 3 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 28.—Marched about six miles to within four miles of the large village of Istaliq, situated at the foot of a high range of barren hills, and surrounded by numerous large orchards and gardens. The whole valley is very fertile with a river running through it. Ameenoollah, the head of the Tajuks, is in possession of the village and forts. A few of the enemy's picquets in sight. The 42nd Regiment ordered out at 3 p.m. to protect the reconnoitring party. Went out to reconnoïtre the north-east side of the town. The enemy showed strongly on the heights, and a couple of hundred skirmishers moved out from the gardens which surround the town. No good reconnaissance was made after all, and at sunset we returned, the enemy hooting and firing at us till within a mile of camp. We had five men wounded.

SEPTEMBER 29.—Marched at sunrise, taking a direction south-west of the town and gardens of Istaliq, a wing of H. M.'s 41st and most of the cavalry being in reserve and protecting the baggage. As we advanced a heavy fire was opened on us from some detached gardens. The force was advancing in two columns, the right composed of Brigadier Tulloch's brigade, and the left of Brigadier Stacy's. A couple of 9-pounders were brought up, and soon cleared the gardens in front. As we advanced

the enemy threw out skirmishers on some rough rocky ground in our front, and facing a long line of thick gardens and vineyards, fronted by a stone wall, and intersected by strong walls and stone-faced terraces. Two companies from each regiment were now thrown out in skirmishing order, and drove the enemy's skirmishers into the gardens, following them up in most gallant style in face of a heavy fire. In ten minutes this line of gardens was cleared; the enemy, having suffered severely, retreated, some to the hills in rear, the rest to the town, which now lay to our right. Our columns now brought up their left shoulders and advanced to the town, driving the enemy through thick gardens and almost impassable vineyards, which were a succession of terraces faced with stone walls. I was forced to dismount and lead my horse, and how he managed to scramble through these vineyards, climbing walls and rolling down into deep lanes, is to me incomprehensible. After driving the enemy over a steep hill, on which we captured one of their guns, we rushed down into a beautiful ravine or dell filled with fruit trees and watered by a rapid mountain stream. Crossing this we entered the town, which is built up the face of a very steep hill, the houses rising on terrace above terrace to a great height. The enemy made but a feeble resistance in the town, otherwise we should have lost a third of our force; and by 12 o'clock our colours were planted on the highest point, and the enemy in full retreat up the steep mountains in rear of the town.

So sure were they of resisting our attack that they had not, as is usual, removed their families or property. The work of plunder now commenced, and every effort was made to save the women and children, but several of both were killed and wounded. We collected several hundreds of both and sent them under an escort to a fort near at hand. The streets and courtyards of the houses were strewn with dead bodies. The loss of the enemy must have been most severe, but there is no means of ascertaining it correctly. At 4 p.m. we withdrew from the town, the men laden with plunder of every description, and our brigade bivouacked for the night on the hill on which we captured the gun. The only other gun the enemy had was captured on a hill east of the town. Our victory was most complete. During the night everything was illuminated by the blazing town.

SEPTEMBER 30.—Were relieved by Brigadier Tulloch's brigade, who continued the work of destruction. We returned to camp.

OCTOBER 1.—Marched eight miles further up the valley to Isturgutch.

OCTOBER 2.—Marched eight miles up the valley to Charekar, a fort and large town, where last year the Goorkha regiment under Captain Codrington was cut to pieces. The town was deserted and the fort a ruin. Set fire to the latter and all the surrounding villages, which were first plundered.

OCTOBER 3.—Halted. Last night the heavens were illuminated most brilliantly by the blazing

towns. At two o'clock 42nd and 43rd ordered out to plunder and destroy a village five miles off in the hills. This we did most effectually, returning to camp at dusk.

OCTOBER 4.—Marched ten miles to Carabagh on our return to Cabul, having left in the villages of Kohistan such a mark as will be remembered for ages.

OCTOBER 7.—Returned to Cabul.

OCTOBER 12.—Employed for the last few days in burning parts of the city; but the Bala Hissar, which ought to have been destroyed, has not been touched. Both General Pollock's and Nott's forces marched to-day to Boodkhak, eight miles. The road very narrow, and a terrible crush of baggage. The rear-guard was not up till eleven p.m. The road for several miles was strewed with the skeletons of those who fell in the retreat from Cabul in January last. Two brigades sent forward under General Sale to occupy the Khoord Cabul Pass.

OCTOBER 13.—General Pollock s force marched to Khoord Cabul. General Nott's halted, as it was found impossible to move so large a force together on these narrow roads.

OCTOBER 14.—Marched nine miles through the Khoord Cabul Pass and encamped at Khoord Cabul. The pass is very strong, being narrow with precipitous mountains on either hand. A river runs through it, which is crossed twenty-seven times on the march. The pass was strewed with the skeletons of the retreating army. We saw upwards of one thousand;

many of them, from having been frozen and under the snow during the winter, were quite perfect, the bodies having the skin and flesh unbroken and the hair on the head. It was a most horribly disgusting sight.

October 15.—Marched fourteen miles to Tazeen over a very bad road and through the Huft Kothul passes. The enemy did not show themselves in any numbers until the main column had passed through: they then assembled in large numbers and attacked the baggage and rear-guard, which consisted of the 42nd and two guns. The baggage was much delayed, and night fell before the rear-guard was halfway through the defiles. The enemy now became bolder, occupying all the heights commanding the road and keeping up a heavy fire. They were driven from each height successively by the 42nd, our men behaving most gallantly, never stopping to look at the numbers opposed to them, but charging up each in excellent style. After some very severe work the regiment got into camp at midnight, having our doctor and one captain severely wounded, ten men killed and thirty wounded. The regiment fired away all their ammunition, but most fortunately fell in with some abandoned ammunition boxes on the road, from which they replenished their pouches.

October 16.—Eight miles of very bad road to Si Baba. The enemy in great numbers on the heights on either hand, which were difficult to ascend. The rear-guard had hard work, not arriving till late, and losing an officer and a good many men killed and wounded.

October 17.—Six miles to Kutta Sung. Road very bad with several very steep ascents and descents. Rear-guard and heavy guns not up till dark. The enemy not in any great numbers, and not much damage done on our side.

October 18.—Ten miles to Jugdulluck; road like the last. For the last four marches the road has been strewed with hundreds of dead bodies, many of them with the skin unbroken. On a hill before coming to the encamping-ground are some ruined walls; here the few left of the retreating army made their last stand. There were about 300 bodies in this place, mostly Europeans, with many officers. We could distinguish the latter by the hair, whiskers, and nails of the hand. Torn Bibles and Prayer-books lay around. Several of the bodies of the officers were recognised, though they had lain there since the middle of January. The skin was like parchment, and cracked when touched.*

October 19.—The bullocks being completely knocked up, we were forced to burst the 18-pounder guns and destroy the ammunition. Marched through the Jugdulluck Pass, fourteen miles, to Soorkhab.

* While at Kandahar in 1841 I occupied, with the other officers of the 42nd, a large house which belonged to Mehr Dil Khan, a brother of Dost Mahomed Khan, and one of the three Sirdars of Kandahar who fled to Persia on the approach of our army in 1839. My sleeping-room was that used by Mehr Dil Khan, and on the white wall he wrote the following lines (in Persian) immediately previous to his flight:—"I have written on the wall of this house, in order that some mark of poor Mehr Dil may remain. If any one asks what has become of this Mehr Dil, say that he has passed away from the hand of Time."

The heights commanding the pass were crowned, but still the enemy, who had assembled now in great numbers, attacked the baggage and rear-guard boldly. Some baggage and bullocks were carried off, and some of the detached parties were hotly pressed by the enemy on the heights. Captain Dalyell, 42nd, Captain Matthews, 43rd, and Lieutenant MacGowan, H.M.'s 40th, were all very seriously wounded. We had a few men killed and a good number wounded. The enemy suffered severely. Our men are completely knocked up from fatigue and hunger, many of the sepoys not having cooked for four days,—most of them for many days,—not reaching camp with the different guards and detachments till sunset, and then having to turn out on picquet, &c.

October 20.—Seven miles to Gundamuck. We are now pretty well out of the mountains, thank God. Our road since leaving Cabul has been a continued succession of most formidable passes. These are exceedingly dangerous and difficult for an advancing army, but doubly so for a retiring one, as every height we left or from which we withdrew our picquets, &c., was instantly occupied by the enemy, and our rear constantly annoyed. Had we been advancing we could have cleared everything before us.

October 21.—Halted. Received an accumulation of letters and papers. No home letters for me.

October 22.—Six miles of a good road to Numla. Some appearance of vegetation and cultivation—the first we have seen since leaving Cabul. The

rear-guard was attacked, and killed thirty of the enemy.

OCTOBER 23.—Nine miles to Futtehabad.

OCTOBER 24.—Eight miles to Sultanpore. A good deal of firing into our camp at night.

OCTOBER 25.—Ten miles to Jellalabad, where we found the whole of General Pollock's army.

OCTOBER 26.—Halted.

OCTOBER 27.—General Pollock's force marched.

OCTOBER 28.—Half of General Pollock's force marched. The other half halted, which obliged us to halt also. Forage guards attacked and a good deal of skirmishing. A great deal of firing at the picquets and in camp during the night. Very heavy rain all night.

OCTOBER 29.—Very heavy rain all night, not able in consequence to march as ordered. As the nights are pitch-dark, parties of the enemy get close up to camp and fire into it without the sentries being able to see them. A regular wall of fire all round camp for greater part of the night. Marched at 6 four miles, to near Ali Baghan. Our rear-guard killed 250 of the enemy, who came down in numbers after the column marched. Firing round camp all night.

OCTOBER 30.—Ten and a half miles to Bareekab over a very stony road.

OCTOBER 31.—Ten and a half miles to Bassool, near the banks of the Cabul river. Villages and forts all destroyed.

[Here the writer tells us that his note-book was filled up, and that he could obtain no more paper. But at this stage the interest of the march was nearly over.]

00103188

Digitized with financial assistance from the
Government of Maharashtra
on 18 July, 2018